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# CITY NEWS

THE NEW JOURNAL OF CIVILIZATION

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as Connie sees it  
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## Mayoral debate sparks town

### Huge crowd turns out for Plainfield meeting

by Deborah Russell-Brown

It was billed as the first in a series of meetings, bringing candidates and citizens together, and for the 1500 Plainfield residents who packed Plainfield High School auditorium last Wednesday, watching the drama of local politics and campaigning was as informative as it was colorful.

"I really found this town meeting to be very informative and I was encouraged by the turnout," said lifelong resident Nora Monroe. "It shows that a lot of people are interested in who is going to run the city."

"A new era of involvement, seen during the presidential election has continued on the local level — you could see that from the turnout alone," commented Jan Edgerton Johnson, City News executive editor and one of the meeting's press panelists. "I think it lifted the spirits of many Plainfielders who saw fellow citizens actively seeking answers to our city's problems, and candidates who represented those solutions."

Two weeks away from the filing deadline six mayoral hopefuls have their eyes on City Hall. Incumbent Mayor Harold Mitchell has not declared his candidacy and did not attend Wednesday's forum.

Many people commented that they were surprised at the size of the field so early in the race.

"Last year you couldn't get two people to run for the school board and now for the mayoral election you've got at least six of us who think we can do a better job than the guy who's in there," quipped one hopeful.

Voters are being courted by a group that is diverse as it is large. There's an entrepreneur who owns one of the state's largest maintenance corporations, a community activist, a corporate attorney,

**A new era of involvement, seen during the presidential election has continued on the local level**

a project manager, a scientist and a personnel recruiter. One candidate told the audience he was an independent, while others clearly pointed to a side of the political aisle.

The Plainfield Board of Education and Assemblyman Gerald Green (D-17th District), who co-sponsored the town meeting, had the six candidates, Malcolm Dunn, Robert Ferraro Mark Fury, George Gore, Easter Frazier and Ted Prehodko field questions from three members of the media and two high school students.

Union County College President Dr. Joseph Brown moderated the debate and said at the end of the meeting, "Between the professional manner of the candidates and the informed questioning by the panel of reporters, you have received a high quality production rivaling ABC, NBC and the major networks."

The program began with each candidate giving a three-minute opening after the introductory remarks, panel members asked candidates questions, several of which were answered by the entire field.

On the subject of Gore Ferraro came down heavy in law or order, citing a police sector plan he devised where police are assigned a steady beat. But Gore, Fury and Frazier emphasized the human side, reaching out to those at risk in the community, including the town's youth.

"We have to instill family values," commented Frazier.

Meanwhile Prehodko pointed the finger at outsiders, who he says think Plainfield is a one-stop shopping center for drugs.

On the issue of crime, a reporter asked how the historic 40-40 relationship between the Mayor and the City Council would be healed.

Gore said that as Mayor he would present a focused agenda and enough information to Council members to prompt bickering. Fury stressed that, as a Democrat with a Democratic council, he would smooth out the troubling relationship, while Ferraro said he'd offer leadership.

The mayor's four-year term has historically been a part-time job. Four of the six candidates said they'd like to see the job expanded to an eight hour a day job. The other two, Dunn and Ferraro, both said the increased time was not necessary.

Ferraro drew scattered applause for a lot of his answers but one woman noted he seemed to think all the city's answers lay in re-opening the dump. His stock answer to questions relevant to garbage as well as irrelevant was he would open the transfer station within 30 days of getting elected.

No one candidate left the meeting with a mandate for city hall, although Fury's answers stirred a lot of comment, both good and bad.

"I was impressed with a lot of things Mark Fury said," answered Gerald Bradshaw when asked who he was leaning towards. However many others said they found him arrogant.

"I felt all the candidates acted in a professional manner," said Anderson. (continued on page 2)

Kenny Anderson, guard for the New Jersey Nets

## NJ b-ball star lobs one over the net

### Newark school honors Kenny Anderson and remembers Arthur Ashe

by Deborah Russell-Brown

"In Chicago they might have Michael, but in New Jersey we have Kenny," exclaimed Newark school board member Charlie Bell to a packed auditorium of young fans of Kenny Anderson, guard for the New Jersey Nets. Bell joined school officials in welcoming and honoring the star athlete at a ceremony held at the Dayton Street School last Wednesday.

Anderson, smiling and shyly displaying the plaque he was awarded, scored points with the students, teachers and parents with his modesty and earnest speech.

Anderson is the second recipient of the school's "Role Model For Excellence" award. The first recipient was tennis great, Arthur Ashe. Bob Davis, co-founder of Ashe's inner city tennis program gave a brief eulogy in remembrance of his long-time friend.

"If I have the chance to touch half as many people as Arthur Ashe, I'd be grateful," Anderson told the cheering youngsters.

His left arm cradled in a cast, Anderson gripped a microphone and spoke about Ashe, as well as his own deep desire to succeed in sports and stay positive and motivated. Looking at the young faces, the star urged students to forget the naysayers and believe in their own potential.

"When I was your age I decided to go to a Catholic school, Archbishop Molloy, because of its good basketball program," Anderson said. "But I needed to pass entrance exams. A lot of people around me said I wasn't smart enough...I wouldn't be able to finish my work and compete with the other kids."

"But I thought I could do it. Every time I needed help, I stayed after school. I asked teachers, I even asked the smart kids in class, for help. It paid off, because I passed the exams with flying colors," said Anderson. "Never count yourself out."

The genesis of the "Role Model For Excellence" program came from Principal Joseph ParlaVecchio's in (continued on page 2)

chance youngsters.

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## Just a memory... or is it?



## Paterson Habitat calls for volunteers

### Former President Jimmy Carter, Gov. Jim Florio and Mayor William Pascrell lend support

PATERSON—"This is the time of year when resolutions are made, noted Anthony Sinacore, president of Paterson Habitat for Humanity. "Many of us passionately resolve to implement changes in our lives in order to give our lives more meaning. But anyone wishing to make a truly meaningful New Year's resolution for 1993, would do well to join people all over the world and consider becoming a Habitat volunteer."

Former President Jimmy Carter, on his longstanding partnership with Habitat for Humanity said, "I've learned more about the needy than I ever did as a governor, as a candidate,

or as president. The sacrifice I thought I would be making turned out to be one of the greatest blessings of my life."

New Jersey's Governor Jim Florio praised the efforts of Paterson Habitat volunteers and noted that "through volunteerism and the involvement of local communities, houses are being erected to help those who can least afford to own a home."

Paterson's Mayor William Pascrell urged prospective Habitat volunteers "to join with me... become a Habitat partner... support this needed, valuable, practical and committed organization."

Paterson Habitat, one of more than 700 affiliates in the world, including 600 in the United States, builds homes in partnership with needy families using donations from individuals, churches, and businesses. Habitat volunteers work side by side with the families in the construction. Sinacore stated that "by making home ownership possible, Habitat volunteers also help rebuild lives and neighborhoods."

Sinacore recently gave Paterson Habitat's year-end report to the board of directors and noted that in 1992, Habitat volunteers were on the job a total of 33 weeks. The organization averaged a total of 60 new volunteers in 1992. According to a research questionnaire, 100 percent of the volun-

## NHA celebrates construction start of 124 new townhouses

NEWARK-The Newark Housing Authority (NHA) celebrated the construction start of 124 new townhouse units in the Central Ward on March 17 in a ceremony held at Muhammad Ali Avenue and Livingston Street.

"This marks the second new construction project undertaken by the NHA in the last five months, and it is further evidence that the NHA is on schedule to fulfill its plans to build 1,777 new public housing units over the next four years," declared NHA Executive Director Harold Lucas.

Last October the NHA began construction of 100 townhouse units in the South and Central Wards, the first new construction since 1988. Lucas explained that the latest development, designated as NJ-39, will be constructed at three sites in the Central Ward.

Of the 124 units, 84 will be on Irvine Turner Boulevard, 20 units will be constructed on Muhammad Ali Avenue and Livingston Street, and 20 townhouses on Bergen Street and 18th Avenue. The 124 units will consist of 81 three-bedrooms, 24 four-

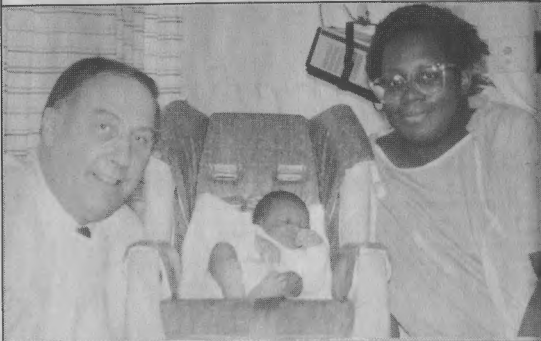
bedrooms, and 19 five-bedrooms. An additional nine duplex units will be specifically for individuals with handicapped conditions, including the physically challenged persons as well as those who are visually and hearing impaired.

"This \$11.2 million project is being financed by the New Jersey Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency through the continuing efforts of a special federal, state and city Task Force," said Lucas.

The Task Force, chaired by Newark Mayor Sharpe James, is comprised of Harold Lucas of the NHA; Burton Bloomberg, acting regional administrator of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD); Diane Johnson, deputy manager at Newark's HUD Office; Commissioner Stephanie Bush of the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs; and Christina Foglio, executive director of the New Jersey Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency.

DKM Building Enterprises of Lawrenceville is the developer selected to build the 124 townhouse units.

# First safe ride



For Jawn, the first child born at Newark Beth Israel Hospital during National Child Passenger Safety Awareness Week (February 8-14), his first ride home was a safe one thanks to the New Jersey Automobile Club Foundation for Safety. The Florham Park based Foundation presented Jawn and his mother, Carla Jones, with a free child safety seat prior to leaving the hospital. The Foundation sponsored the program at Newark Beth Israel and eleven other area hospitals to remind parents to make child safety seats a priority in their new babies' lives. Correct safety seat use can prevent approximately 53,000 injuries and save 500 lives each year. Showing off Jawn's new infant safety seat are AAA's safety manager, Paul Kleiback and Jawn's mother, Carla.

## Newark school honors Kenny Anderson & Arthur Ashe

(continued on page 1)  
 involvement with Arthur Ashe's "ABC's: Ashe/Bolton/Tennis Camps," Paravechio, who is also an Essex County Freeholder, was among the county officials who coordinated the free use of county and City of Newark tennis courts for Ashe's inter city year-round youth program.

"When we first decided to set up a role model program last year, Arthur Ashe came to mind," commented Paravechio. "I mean who better exemplifies the best in caring, successful role models?"

Ashe, a world class champion, was the first African-American to win the US Open and Wimbledon. He died in February from complications due to AIDS.

Choosing Anderson was a joint effort between Dayton officials and their corporate "buddy" Nabisco Foods.

Paravechio explained that Nabisco has an on-going corporate relationship with the NJ Nets youth programs, and that Dayton Street School officials asked Nabisco to choose a few Nets players who's lives, on and off the court, would be good examples for young people.

Anderson was chosen for his personal achievements in succeeding in a tough, New York City parochial program at the high school level, for his outstanding career at Georgia Tech; and his involvement on the international level at the Goodwill Games and the World Championships.

Anderson, the second overall pick in the NBA 1991 draft, had been averaging 17 points a game and was among the top ten in the NBA for assists before getting injured. He broke his left wrist in a game against the New York Knicks in February.

## Arthritis Foundation holds 'Dream Date' auction of eligible bachelors

PISCATAWAY—A "few good men" were wanted for the third annual "Dream Date," an auction of eligible bachelors ages 30-55, and their date packages, to be held Sunday, May 2, at Wurlitzer's in Piscataway.

Bachelors will meet and mingle with hundreds of area women during a cocktail hour, followed by the auction.

"We are looking for single men who would like to meet new people, and just have a great time," said Ed Reynolds of Elizabeth, 1993 "Dream Date" Committee Chairman, and former auction participant. "Last year's event was great fun for everyone involved, and we hope to attract many new people this year."

Interested bachelors, or women who would like to attend the auction, should call Arthritis Foundation, 908-283-4300 for more information. All proceeds will benefit the Arthritis Foundation, New Jersey Chapter.



## State's First Lady honored

First Lady Lucinda Florio joins New Jersey Network officials and producers of "Around and About New Jersey," a series of 15-minute programs about historical places in the state, which received an Emmy Award for Outstanding Children's Programming Series at the Emmy's regional competition. Mrs. Florio, a former elementary school teacher, introduces each program. The series is broadcast on New Jersey Network during the daytime instructional schedule and is available for purchase through NBN Video and for loan at many New Jersey libraries. Pictured (l-r) are Harvey Fisher, Executive Director of New Jersey Network; David Cohen, series producer; the First Lady; Walter Femas, series Executive Producer; and Lou Prelli, series Director.

## Volunteer mentors sought

NEWARK—The Michael R. Ivey Mentoring Program is seeking volunteers to serve as mentors.

Established in 1991 through the efforts of the State Martin Luther King Commission and the Friendly Fund Neighborhood Services, Inc., the program operates Saturday mornings between 9:30 and 11:30 a.m. Currently assisting 75-90 youngsters from throughout the Greater Newark Community, the program provides individualized reading and group reading sessions; computer training in basic skills; field trips to cultural, business and government organizations; and workshops in creative arts.

For more information contact Joseph Greer, 201-733-3850, or Geraldine Smith, 201-648-4911.

## Plainfield mayoral debate

(continued on page 1)  
 semlyman Green, at the end of the debate.

"I was happy that the discussion never sunk to name-calling or any derogatory behavior," added Brown.

While the debate stayed calm, residents saw wildly disparate answers. Prehodka and Frazier said they would actively court outside investment and talent to revitalize the city; Fry simply shook his head saying Plainfield had ample resources

to solve its problems, if organized and lead properly.

With the town meeting being held so early in the primary season, some question how serious they could take the candidates.

"To me, this was kind of a pre-election rap session," said Robert Edwards, a community housing activist. "We need a little time to find out who these people really are, what are their issues and which ones have the ability to run a viable campaign."

# Community Calendar

## NOW THRU MAY 21

JERSEY CITY—The Jersey City Public Library will hold its pre-school story hour weekly. For more info call 201-547-4509.

## TUESDAYS, THRU MAY 25

SCOTCH PLAINS—Individuals with disabilities may enjoy open swim with the United County Division of Parks and Recreation every Tuesday from 7:15 to 8:30 p.m. at the Scotch Plains-Fanwood YMCA, 1340 Martine Avenue, free of charge. Persons requiring assistance in either the water or the locker room should bring a chaperone. For more info call 908-527-4930.

## EVERY TUESDAY AND THURSDAY

IRVINGTON—The Irvington Health Department has a free baby clinic in the afternoon for ages newborn to 5 years of age at Irvington General Hospital. Make an appointment by calling 959-4662.

## WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31

PLAINFIELD—The Plainfield Board of Education will conduct a public hearing on the 1993-94 Budget at the Plainfield High School Library at 7:00 p.m.

## THURSDAY, APRIL 1

NEW BRUNSWICK—Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital will offer a series of Community Health Education Events that will run through April 30th for list of events and more information call 908-937-8920/8505.

NEWARK—The Newark Public Library presents Celebrate Africa and People in honor of National Women's History Month, the exhibition will run until April 25th. For further information call The

Newark Public Library at 201-733-7793, located at 5 Washington Street, Newark, NJ.

NEWARK—Friends of The Newark Public Library will hold its Second Annual Book Sale at 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., held in Centennial Hall of the Main Library, 5 Washington Street, Newark, NJ. For more information call 201-733-7744.

TRENTON—West Indian fiction writer, novelist Jamaica Kincaid will offer a presentation at 4:30 p.m. in Clayton R. Kopp Student Center at Trenton State College. For info call 609-771-2539.

PLAINFIELD—The Mothers' Center of Central New Jersey will conduct a sale of excellent condition, used maternity and children's spring and summer clothing for 3 days at the Crescent Avenue Presbyterian Church from 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Only cash will be accepted. For more information call 908-561-1751.

## FRIDAY, APRIL 2

NEW YORK—The Film Society of Lincoln Center presents "Modern Days: Ancient Nights: Thirty Years of African Film-making" to run through April 30th, at the Walter Reed Theater, 165 West 58th Street, Plaza Level.

WAYNE—William Paterson College will hold a lecture series at 8:00 p.m. the guest speaker will be Dick Casey, who served as Secretary of Defense under President George Bush. The lecture will be in Shea Center on the WPC campus. Admission is \$15.00 for more information call 201-955-2371.

## SATURDAY, APRIL 3

ORANGE—The Orange Cultural Affairs Division of the Department of Orange

# Coping

## By Dr. Charles W. Faulkner

### Future of black males threatened by police harassment

The unpleasant fact, which few people want to accept, is that black males are the chosen, the selected targets of police brutality and harassment. Black males, in every city in this country in which blacks are a significant part of the population, have experienced the insult, fear, abuse and degradation of police officers who virtually make it clear to the victim that he is being targeted.

Police frequently justify their behavior by saying, "Of course we target black males. After all, they are the ones who commit the most crimes." They make this rationalization in spite of the fact that the statistics which they use to prove their case, and justify their behavior, were created by them through their own false arrests and harassment.

In the past six months, "60 minutes," "Front Line" and "20/20," well-known television programs, have video taped policemen ignoring and driving peace white law breakers in order to harass innocent black males. In some respects, harassment is equal to brutality in its effect because the intention of the police officer is to intimidate the black male. The officer wants to provoke an innocent black male into saying something to the harassing police officer that could be grounds for arresting the black male. The result is that an innocent victim suffers an arrest and a police record, which virtual ruins his life. This is the effect, if not the objective of police harassment.

Here are some important points:

1. Police brutality and harassment of black males, which were not addressed by the presidential candidates during the recent election, have the indirect, unspoken support of politicians and the populace across the country. Most politicians keep their mouths shut tightly when instances of police brutality occur in their cities.

2. Ten years ago, it was fashionable to speak of the black males between ages 19 and 27 who had bad brushes with the law. Just twenty percent of this population had been victimized. The age range has broadened significantly and police are now harassing black males from ages 16 to 40 and beyond. Age does not now matter, if one is a black male.

3. Forty percent of black males in this age category now have police records. It is not known how many black males have been harassed (picked up for investigation or suspicion, held overnight and released from jail the next day). This figure could be in the millions. Police harassment has become so arbitrary that every black male, regardless of his age, is in danger.

4. Some of the major dangers of police harassment are the humiliation of being stopped by a police officer (especially if one is in the company of a friend), the fear of being locked up (even if only overnight), the degradation of being treated like a sub-human, but being afraid to stand up for one's rights, and having one's life permanently ruined by a police record.

5. Essentially, black males who get police records will be unable to obtain decent, if any, employment and will be forced to actually violate the law in order to survive the effects of their illegal arrest.

6. Blacks have for years sympathized with the horrible plight of black South Africans. Now, South Africa is becoming more like America, and America is becoming more like South Africa. They are both oppressive for black males, but South Africa might someday have a viable environment for black males.

## Currie named 'Employee of the Month' at JFK



Elsie Currie

EDISON—Perth Amboy resident Elsie Currie, a program assistant in the Alzheimer's program at the JFK Hartwell Adult Medical Day Center in Edison, has been named March "Employee of the Month" for JFK Medical Center and its affiliates.

Currie will receive a number of gifts, including a VIP parking spot for the month and a specially designed commemorative pin.

## SUNDAY, APRIL 4

NEWARK—THIRTEEN WHET will feature AT THE RIVERISTAND 10:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Premiere of the civil rights movement up to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s assassination.

## MONDAY, APRIL 5

WESTFIELD—St. Helen's Church Support Group for the elderly or chronically ill relatives will meet on the first Monday of each month at 8:00 p.m. in the parish center of the church located on Lamsden Mill Road in Westfield, NJ. For information call 908-233-8757.

## SATURDAY, APRIL 10

JERSEY CITY—African-American Historical and Genealogical Society, Inc. will hold its regular meeting at 12:00 Noon of each month at 8:00 p.m. in the parish center of the church located on Lamsden Mill Road in Westfield, NJ. For information call 908-233-8757.

## TUESDAY, APRIL 13

ELIZABETH—Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders has announced the spring session of State and Town for people who have had strokes under the direction of Parks and Recreation, the program will run through May 20th at

12:00 Noon to 1:00 p.m. Registration deadline April 1, for information call 908-527-4930.

## MONDAY, APRIL 19

NEWARK—The Newark Public Library will hold a series of adult Career Workshops from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Auditorium on the fourth floor of the Main Library, located at 5 Washington Street, Newark, NJ. More workshops are scheduled for dates and times call 201-643-7189.

## TUESDAY, APRIL 20

NEWARK—How To Find Employment During A Recession, a workshop, will be given at the Main Library from 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. For more information call 201-733-4525.

RANDOLPH—Spoke Lee will appear at the County College of Morris in the Dragonfly Theater at 8:00 p.m. in the Student Community Center for students, \$8 for more information call 201-328-5225.

## WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21

NEWARK—How To Find The Most Employment and Training Agencies, a workshop, will be given at Main Library from 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. For more information call 201-733-4525.

## SATURDAY, MAY 22

PLAINFIELD—"Police & the African-American Community" will be the focus of the social studies course for students sponsored by the Plainfield Area Ebony Police Association at Calvary Baptist Church from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Registration forms can be obtained by writing to Plainfield Area Ebony Police Association, P.O. Box 3158, Plainfield, N.J.

## Spotlight on Newark & East Orange



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# YOUTH/EDUCATION/SUCCESS

## Newark students victorious at ACT-SO competition

### KIDS Kalendar

THURSDAY, APRIL 1

**NEW YORK**—Bronx Zoo will open for their Spring season, Monday through Friday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., weekends and holidays 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. For admission prices or other information call 718-587-1010.

SATURDAY, APRIL 3

**TRENTON**—New Jersey State Museum will be open through July 5, featuring a planetarium show to be presented over the Easter break. The museum is located at 205 W. State Street and is open Tuesday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. Admission is free. For more information call 609-292-6454.

SUNDAY, APRIL 4

**GLASSBORO**—Rowan College Open House—High school juniors, seniors and their parents are invited to the day's activities, beginning at 1 p.m. in the Wilson Concert Hall. For more information call 609-863-5347.

**JERSEY CITY**—Jersey City State College Open House on the college campus, 2030 Kennedy Boulevard. All are invited. Registration begins at 11 a.m. in the Margaret Williams Theatre of Hobart Hall. For more information call 201-200-3234.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7

**FARHILLS**—Somerset Art Association, Inc. will be offering a program for preschoolers, ages 3 to 5, entitled "Mother Goose on the Loose." The program will run through May 12, from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Cost for members is \$42 and \$50 for non members. For information call 908-234-2345.

**NEWARK**—A total of 26 students representing various Newark high schools participated in the fourth annual statewide competition of the Afro Academic, Cultural, Technological and Scientific Olympics (ACT-SO), and brought home 22 medals.

Some 350 students from around the state converged at Arthur J. Holland Middle School in Trenton, where the competition was held, to compete in 24 categories ranging from Physics to Dance. Newark ACT-SO was a part of the northern region which included Paterson, Morristown, Montclair, Parsippany, Teaneck, Hackensack and Summit.

"This is just a slight indication of the ability of our students," said Jacqueline Lawrence, president of the Newark NAACP branch. "We look forward to more and more students becoming involved with ACT-SO. The parents also gave a lot of support."

One of the gold medalists, Nicole Tucker, a junior at University High, won medals in Poetry and Computer Science last year. This year, she won a gold medal in Architecture and a silver in Oratory.



Nicole Tucker of University High in Newark captured both a gold medal in Architecture and a silver medal in Oratory in this year's ACT-SO competition, sponsored by the National NAACP.

"I felt I didn't have to limit myself and it felt good to see I could do well in other categories," Tucker said. "I also benefited a lot from my mentors."

"This year we introduced the mentor component of ACT-SO and we were very pleased with the response received from adults," said Deborah Smith, Newark ACT-SO coordinator. "Next year we intend to expand and really develop that portion of the program."

William Finch, a senior at Science High, won a silver medal last year in Physics and returned this year to capture the gold in that category. "I am so happy. I learned a lot by going to the national competition in Nashville," Finch said. This year he will return to the national ACT-SO competition, to be held at the National NAACP Convention in Gary, Indiana this July.

"I feel great and I'm glad I got involved," said first-time winner Khalilah Goins, a sophomore at Arts High who won a gold medal in Drama.

Other Gold medalists include: Nytesha Woods of Science High for Chemistry; Keisha Champagne of Science High for Oratory; Cantave Philistin of Arts High for Painting and Sculpture; and Amira McNoll of Barringer High for Vocal Music Contemporary.

Silver medalists were: Timia Wilson of University High for Original Essay; Ameenah Gibbons of University High for Music Instrumental; Alexis Jett of Arts High for Drawing; Cleavon McCants of Barringer High for Vocal Music Classical; Anita Nicolson of Oak Knoll High for Computer Science; Pia Garbutt of Arts High for Painting; and Nadiyah Rodgers of Arts High for Sculpture.

Bronze medalists were: Alicia Simmons of Barringer High for Oratory; Keyed Zahir of Arts High for Painting; Elaine Jones of Arts High for Drawing; Taisha Edwards of Arts High for Playwriting; Anita Nicolson of Oak Knoll High for Poetry; and Charissa Neal of Chad Science Academy for Video/Filmmaking.

"We are extremely proud of all youngsters who represented the Newark NAACP branch," said Lawrence. "Sometimes teens are painted in such a negative light, we forget about the positive ones who are trying to make a way in our society."

ACT-SO is a major project of the national NAACP designed to recognize the academic and cultural prowess of African American youths. The competition is conducted in the areas of the sciences, humanities, performing arts and visual arts.

## EO sponsors 'Girl Scout Citizenship Day'

**EAST ORANGE**—Mayor Cardell Cooper met with girl scout representatives from over thirty East Orange based troops in the annual observance of "Girl Scout Citizenship Day" on March 8. The day's program was part of the week-long observance of "Girl Scout Week" to commemorate the 81st anniversary of the founding of the Girl Scouts of America.

Prior to a wreath laying ceremony at the statue of President Abraham Lincoln in front of City Hall, Mayor Cooper addressed an audience of approximately fifty scouts and advisors representing the City's Daisies, Brownies, Juniors and Seniors.

With Nicole Smith of Troop 317, the designated Girl Scout Mayor for the day, at his side Mayor Cooper expressed pride in the scouts and com-

mended them for their participation in community programs and activities.

"You young women set a shining example for others to follow," he said.

As the scouts boarded a bus for a day-long visit to the Museum of Natural History in New York, Mayor Cooper stated that there are many girls and young women in East Orange who are ready to be placed in a troop.

"I encourage all East Orange adults to take a few hours from their busy schedules to afford our youth the opportunity to reap the benefits that come from scouting," the Mayor said.

After the field trip, the scouts participated in the evening's regular city council meeting.

For more information about scouting, call 201-746-8200.

## Compete in ARCO Games

**PLAINFIELD**—Local boys and girls born 1979-1986 are eligible to participate in the ARCO Jesse Owens Games on Sunday, May 8 at 9 a.m.

Youngsters placing first and second in the preliminary meet at Plainfield will qualify to participate in the Eastern Regional Championships.

to be held at LaSalle University in Philadelphia on June 26.

Complete eligibility information is available from John Pepe, 908-753-3095, at Plainfield City Hall. Completed applications must be returned to the Plainfield Division of Recreation no later than April 30.



Winners of the essay contest sponsored by Hoechst Celanese at Washington Elementary School students are (rear, l-r) Mia Bradley, Janese Atkins and Tamara Lee. Poster contest winners (front) are Jimmie McCoy (l), Sherise (2nd r) McCauley and Alexander Correa (r). Christopher McCoy (2nd l) from South Plainfield was a guest participant in the program.

## HELPP visits Washington School

**SOMERVILLE**—Hoechst Celanese Employee Linking People & Progress (HELPP) took its celebration of Black History Month to Washington Elementary School in Plainfield and challenged the students to an essay and poster contest.

On Friday, March 12, HELPP awarded six contest winners each with a rare U.S. commemorative coin depicting Booker T. Washington and George Washington Carver. The coins were minted between the years 1947 and 1952.

Winning essays came from sixth graders Janese Atkins, Tamara Lee and Mia Bradley. First grader, Sherise McCauley

and second graders Alexander Correa and Jimmie McCoy entered the winning posters. All contest entrants received a Certificate of Participation.

The HELPP group, which emphasizes community involvement and work with minority youth, has "adopted" Plainfield's Washington and Jefferson Elementary Schools. The group is conducting several activities in each school, including a Saturday Drama Project and Anatomy classes for the students.

The Saturday Drama Project is designed to improve students' reading and writing skills—as well as enhancing their levels of self-esteem—by reading and acting out simple plays and skits.

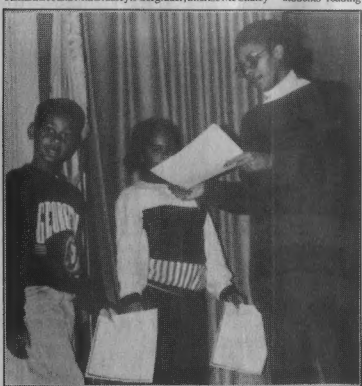
The 10-week program was conducted recently, and very successfully, at Jefferson School. The program culminated with a play, "Booker T. Washington," performed by the students.

The Anatomy Class was developed to teach students about the systems of the body through the dissection of a rat. All necessary materials, including rats and tools, were acquired through Hoechst Celanese. One session of this class has been conducted at Jefferson.

Neither program has begun at Washington School yet, but the programs' project leaders are trying to schedule them in the near future.

### DST Scholarship Luncheon

**JERSEY CITY**—The North Jersey Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. is sponsoring its annual Scholarship Luncheon to benefit college bound and matriculating students. The luncheon will be held on Saturday, April 3, at 11 a.m. at the Sheraton Meadowlands. For more info call 201-926-2710.



Hoechst Celanese volunteer Melissa Austin coaches two Jefferson School Drama students during a Saturday morning rehearsal.

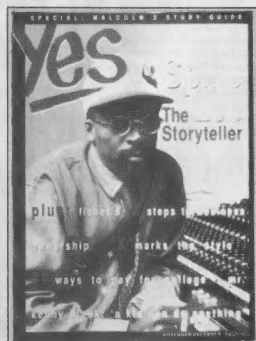
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## EDITORIAL

## Choosing a successor

There has been a great deal of talk about who is best suited to replace Benjamin Hooks as head of the NAACP. Many people, today, have a negative opinion of the NAACP. Many people wonder whom, exactly, the organization is supposed to represent. Within the group itself there has been discussion about where the organization should be headed in the future.

In light of the declining image of the NAACP, it is important that the search committee choose a leader who will be able to boost the image of the organization, rekindle the pride that it once incited and prepare it to move forward, strongly and deliberately, into the 21st century. The person who could be such a leader is the Rev. Jesse Jackson.

Rev. Jackson is a high-profile, highly respected individual whose personal image could only bring a positive energy to the NAACP. Besides being well respected within the black community, Rev. Jackson has earned the respect of members of many other ethnic communities throughout the nation. He is also in touch with people, of color and otherwise, internationally.

The head of both the National Rainbow Coalition and Operation PUSH, Jackson has proven his interest in fighting for justice, equality and the welfare of our young people. Most importantly, however, is the fact that Rev. Jackson was able to run for president and garner votes nationally. Considering both his achievements, and the fact that so many people, of so many different walks of life were confident that he could lead the country as president, we are confident that Rev. Jackson can lead the NAACP.

Because of his experiences with the Civil Rights Movement and the continuing struggle for the advancement of oppressed people, Jackson will be able to continue the tradition of the NAACP. Because of his stature, both nationally and internationally, the organization will be able to broaden its spectrum of support. Jackson, while helping the group to unify its energies, will bring a fresh, new spirit to the sometimes complacent organization.

We believe that the other candidates — Rev. Benjamin Chavis, head of the United Church of Christ's Commission for Racial Justice, Jerald Jackson-McCabe, founder of the Coalition of 100 Black Women, and Earl Shinnoster, NAACP Southeastern regional director — have shown exemplary leadership and may be very capable of running the NAACP. Rev. Jesse Jackson is unquestionably the best choice for the position. He should undoubtedly be chosen for the position if it is indeed what he wants.



by Connie Woodruff

The political pot continues to boil in East Orange where it appears a record number of candidates will be in the running for one of five city council seats up for grabs.

In addition to incumbent council members, some familiar names appear on the list of these persons who have taken out petitions to run in the June primary election: Bob Beaver, an anticipated candidate for mayor, may be running for the Third Ward council seat, according to an informed source; former recreation director Carole Clark announced for the council this week and will be running in the Fifth Ward.

Jimmie Smalls, president of the East Orange Board of Education, may be pitted against Smalls, while Darryl Hartfield will be one of Carol Clark's opponents. Ex-Freshholder Corina Kay is set for an all-out fight to capture a seat in the Second Ward, and former councilwoman Beverly Williams will try for a comeback in the First Ward.

In the meantime, some frantic backroom politics, in an effort to end the so-called "feud" between popular

Mayor Carlisle Cooper and County Executive Tom D'Alesio, has ended in another deadlock without either side giving ground.

So it appears that by press time D'Alesio will still call the shots for which candidates will run under the banner of the Regular Democratic Party designation while those who support Cooper for re-election will be placed elsewhere on the ballot.

Cooper will have a major fundraiser on April 10, and the size of the crowd will be a barometer of his popularity, and some indication of how well he will do without the advantage of running on the Democratic Party "line."

In Orange, the super-insiders most intimate with the political ambitions of Mayor Bob Brown, insist he will announce his candidacy for State Senator before the primary filing deadline.

When we spoke to Mayor Brown about the possibility of challenging incumbent State Senator Cody, he reminded us that when he ran for his Assembly seat two years ago his real target had been the State Senate. Serving in the Assembly gave him the experience and exposure his campaign

advisors deemed necessary to prepare him for service as a senator.

He declined to say whether or not he will be running on the Regular Democratic Party line. However, D'Alesio, as county chairman and chief architect for designated party candidates, may well offer Brown the opportunity to run "on the line" since Cody is expected to be a running mate of Mayor Cooper.

Hints that Brown would move from the Assembly to the Senate began surfacing about a year ago, and since that time he has been busily courting prospective voters in Montclair who were included in the 26th legislative district in the new legislative alignment.

If you haven't seen Mayor Brown lately, you'll be surprised at his much slimmer physique. According to his friends, he's in "fighting shape and ready to do battle with Senator Cody." One of the top people in his office is Debra Jennings, a young political activist and women's advocate in Montclair. She has the potential for helping her boss in his quest for votes from the new district.

At any rate, those anxious to "draft" the mayor want it to be known that

since he entered the political arena as a candidate, the political range goal has always been Cody's State Senate seat. And that's the way it is.

During his lay day, the late Newark councilman-at-large Earl Harris was known as one of the most vocal members on the council. As council president he would put on a good show of putting his council colleagues down, and heated arguments and shouting matches were the norm rather than the exception.

He would probably enjoy today's East Orange council meeting — where war between council members may break out at any time over the most trivial remark.

It happened again last week, and, not surprisingly, the argument between supporters of Mayor Cooper and City Council President Stephen Thomas.

Other councilpersons who became party to the shouting match between Thomas and councilwoman Yvonne Blake, included council vice chair, Carolyn Meacham and Phil Thigpen. So much for the "peace pact" Thomas and Blake agreed to last year.

(continued on page 10)

## The importance of the NAACP

### Remembering its achievements throughout history and choosing leadership that will prepare it for the future



by Sharon Khadijah Vincent

It's ironic that the NAACP finds itself at a critical crossroad in its history — struggling to find a replacement for Benjamin Hooks as head of the organization, and, in the process, to play in these turbulent times — as we continue to fight for human and equal rights for African Americans and other oppressed nationalities. What many view as a classic struggle between the old and the new, or whatever term is used to describe the struggle, is in fact similar to the struggles and issues which led to the founding of the NAACP in 1909.

Tensions between old abolitionists, various other so-called white liberals, and African Americans who agreed more with the views articulated by Booker T. Washington — as opposed to those ideas espoused by those who were considered either "radical" or "militant" at that time, such as W.E.B. DuBois, Ida B. Wells-Barnett and William Monroe Trotter — are historic reminders of the ongoing process of struggle and change which inevitably takes place between new and old ideas, methods and tactics.

The mainstream media's attempts to cast the present day struggle in a negative light, or to try to make it a battle between personalities, clearly

points out their failure to appreciate, or understand the history of the NAACP or African-American history in general. The shallow analyses being written up in the white mainstream press, appear to be more focused on making side swipes at the Rev. Jesse Jackson, who is one of the individuals being considered to replace Benjamin Hooks.

While there are many comments and quotes about what various people think about whether Jackson should get the job or not, and what that would mean for the organization, very little background information is given about either candidate and their views or opinions about which direction they believe the NAACP should go in as we move toward the year 2000. There is a lot of discussion about who could best promote the image of the NAACP, yet hardly any mention about the black realities or images which young African-American children face or see every day in their communities.

We should reject any attempts by the mainstream media to trivialize the current situation in the NAACP and its search for new leadership. We need to spend this time talking with young people, and acquainting them with the rich history of this organization. Many hold a very negative and false view of the NAACP and the role it has played in the history of our people. Whatever one might think about the current status or direction of the NAACP, it can not be denied that it has made major significant

contributions in helping to fight racism, and intolerance.

Just as strategies and tactics were formed — as a result of the debate and discussions which took place inside and outside of the organization — that led to effective and bold actions during the early 1900's and into the turbulent 50's and 60's, new strategies can and will develop from the debate going on today. It's actually good that the organization is having this debate about which direction it needs to take. It's good that members are concerned that they aren't attracting young people, and that the membership has basically become too complacent and the organization unfocused.

These are positive developments within the NAACP, and will bring about needed changes. For those who think that it has had its day, it would be good for them to remember that we can learn a lot from studying the history of the organization and the outstanding individuals who have been involved with it over the years. Few can point to a record of such longevity, which the NAACP endures and should not be taken lightly. The wisdom and experience of those individuals who committed themselves to the advancement of our people should be utilized and not laughed at or put aside. Even while we make room for the new leadership which must come forward, in order to keep the organization fresh and revitalized.

## American Cancer Society applauds Sen. Bill Bradley

## Dear Editor:

It has been nearly thirty years since the Surgeon General of the United States first warned the nation of the dangers of cigarette smoking. Yet one-fourth of adults remain addicted and smoking is still the number one cause of preventable death. Smoking now kills more Americans each year than alcohol, heroin, crack, automobile and airplane accidents, homicides, suicides, and AIDS combined. Each year tobacco use kills 434,000 Americans.

Despite the fact that it is illegal to sell cigarettes to children, three thousand teenagers begin smoking each day — more than one million per year! Nearly 90 percent of smokers begin smoking before the age of 18. This onset of smoking by teenagers is no accident, but, rather, a result of marketing strategies and advertising campaigns directly and specifically aimed at children and teenagers to replace those smokers who either die or quit. Tobacco companies spend nearly \$4 billion each year on youth-oriented advertising designed to promote smoking as sophisticated and sexy. If we can prevent the onset of smoking by our young people, we can make tremendous strides in reducing the burden of addiction, death, and disease smoking imposes on the health and economy of the United States.

The New Jersey Division of the American Cancer Society applauds Sen. Bill Bradley for proposing to raise the federal excise tax on cigarettes from 24 cents to \$1 a pack. A substantial increase in the tax on tobacco products is one of the most effective methods for significantly reducing tobacco use among adults and children.

Marguerite K. Schlag, Ed.D.  
Chairman  
American Cancer Society  
New Jersey Division, Inc.

Paul E. Wallner, D.D.  
President  
American Cancer Society  
New Jersey Division, Inc.

## Quote of the Week

"I thought I could do it. Every time I needed help, I stayed after school. I asked teachers, I even asked the smart kids in class, for help. It paid off. . . Never count yourself out."

Kenny Anderson  
NJ Nets

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## by William Reed

Most blacks think that the government is the answer to our woeful economic and social situation.

When the Urban League announces its annual "State of Black America" report, most people can tell you in advance what state the report will say our overall condition will be. In addition to the sad numbers in education, employment and housing, most people already know that the Urban League will say that these conditions can only be overcome by the government helping us, through the League of course, with grants, public sector jobs and improved welfare.

Blacks' reliance on the government is reflected by the importance of patron politics. African Americans cast their votes in droves for Governor Bill Clinton, and now that he is president we expect him to "take care of us." Clinton's recent proposal to help stimulate the economy, and inner-city employment, by pumping an extra \$1 billion into summer jobs programs has drawn great raves and applause from black organizations such as the Urban League, NAACP and community groups from Philadelphia to Phoenix. And, black elected officials in these areas can't wait until Clinton, and Housing and Urban Development Secretary Henry Cisneros, release \$6.5 billion in Community Development Block Grants during fiscal year 1994 to put "a chicken in every urban pot."

But, organized black groups, elected officials and the "underclass" of the country, evidently don't remember our rich history in African-American America. Although Afrocentric

achievements in personal accomplishments given even further, when our European forefathers arrived on these shores there still was no welfare system safety net.

In the early great days of Africa, and in Colonial America, each person was responsible for his or her own financial welfare. When the slaves ran North on the Underground Railway, and when the pioneers crossed the plains, there were no unemployment benefits. White, and black, settlers had to scratch out their own existence.

When thousands of European immigrants landed here in the early 1900's they came seeking only the opportunity to work and to be free. Somewhere between then and now, there has been an almost destructive shift in public thinking, and actions, across the nation.

Whether it is on a farm in Iowa, or housing projects in Harlem, people have ceased to assume personal responsibility for their financial well-being and instead assume that the government is responsible for everything. . . from cleaning their streets to their daily bread. Today, from teenage mothers to ward aldermen, we all expect government to bail out everything from defunct major corporations, to defense contractors, to insolvent municipalities.

But when the rubber reaches the road for America, we will find that the government is not responsible for our personal well-being. Salvation from the government is not the answer. The answer lies in us. We alone are responsible for our ultimate financial welfare.

While the Clinton summer jobs program is expected to create 500,000

net new jobs, most economists say that it is little more than fire insurance for the nation's cities and expect the program will do little toward providing urban youth useful job training or adding new gateways for their long-term employment prospects. The block grants are supposed to help lower-income people, but if history is any indication, getting these monies to poor urban residents through local politicians and "administrators," will be like the food chain of feeding elephants to feed sparrows.

As a group, we have the resources to stop waiting for handouts from Uncle Sam. Isn't it time that we leaned on each other again? Collective work and investment in our families, churches and among success oriented friends will yield more results than the government ever will.

William Reed is president of the Business and Industry Development, publisher of "Who's Who in Black Corporate America" and is located at 1063 National Press Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20045 202-388-8764.

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# Billboard

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31**  
ELIZABETH Pross Theaterworks theatrical group will present the Obie Award winning off-Broadway play, "For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide/When the Rainbow is Enuff." The performance will begin at 12:30 p.m. Union County College's Career Institute. For information call 905-965-6017.

**APRIL 1 THRU 4**  
NEW YORK—The Alvin Ailey Repertory Ensemble will present its second annual New York season at the David Hall of City College. For more information call 212-634-7100.

**THURSDAY, APRIL 1**  
NEW YORK—An Opening Night Gala benefit and performance by The Alvin Ailey Repertory Ensemble will kick off the year-long 35th birthday celebration of the Alvin Ailey Dance Theater Foundation. For more information call 212-767-6550 ext. 321.

**FRIDAY, APRIL 2**  
WESTBURY, NY—Reggae music superstars Black Uhuru, Andrew Tosh and The Wailers will be joined by dancehall King Louie Rankin at Westbury Music Fair for "Reggae Springplash" at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$22.50. For tickets or information call 516-334-0800.

**SUNDAY, APRIL 4**  
NEW YORK—Blue Note Jazz Club & Restaurant will pay tribute to the late Billy Eckstine starting at 7 p.m. to 4 a.m. Ben Duncan of WGO will be the Master of Ceremonies. Admission is free, open to the public. The Blue Note is located at 131 West 3rd Street, New York City.

**SUNDAY, APRIL 11**  
NEW YORK—The Apollo Theatre will feature artists Chaka Khan, Philip Bailey, Hugh Maskeela, Gerald Albright, Keith Maitum, Marcos Loya, Dan Siegel, and Kozu Matsui on Easter Sunday, for two shows, 5 p.m. and 9 p.m. Call the theatre, located at 235 West 125th Street, for more information.

**THURSDAY, APRIL 15**  
HARLEM, NY—Jazz legend Dorothy Donegan and fresh, young keyboardist/teacher Okeke Jazz Ensemble will perform at the Schomburg Center at 7 p.m. For tickets call 212-697-2256.

**THRU APRIL 16**  
NEW YORK CITY—Stephanie Mills returns to the New York stage as Dorothy in "The Wiz" for a limited engagement. Performances will be at the Beacon Theatre, 74th St. Broadway. For more information contact Irene Gandy at 212-489-6745.

# 'Modern Days, Ancient Nights': Thirty years of African filmmaking' NY's Largest African film festival to showcase works of Ousmane Sembene

NEW YORK—The Film Society of Lincoln Center's Walter Reade Theater and the African Film Festival, Inc. are proud to present "Modern Days, Ancient Nights: Thirty Years of African Filmmaking," April 2 to 30. Made possible with funding from The Ford Foundation and the Rockefeller Foundation, this program will be the largest African film festival ever held in New York. The month-long program will feature 12 films by African filmmakers from

twelve countries, including recognized "classics," brand new features from emerging young filmmakers, and a tribute to the work of Senegalese filmmaker Ousmane Sembene—the "father of African filmmaking," to whom, on the occasion of his 70th birthday, this program is dedicated. In addition, a selection of 12 films from the series will be presented in the Cantor Auditorium at the Brooklyn Museum, on Saturday and Sunday afternoons, April 17 through May 23, at

12:30 p.m. Each screening will consist of two films followed by a guest speaker. According to Richard Peña, program director of the Film Society of Lincoln Center, "African cinema is evolving into just that—a continent-wide phenomenon, not just the product of two or three nations." The Festival at the Film Society of Lincoln Center's Walter Reade Theater is a three-part examination of African cinema. Sembene's films will be screened on Tuesday and Wednesday, "classic" films

on Thursdays and Fridays, and the latest African films on Saturdays and Sundays throughout April. "Ousmane Sembene's Black Light: The Dawn of African Cinema" will feature nine works by the Senegalese director. The Festival will present his first film, "Borom Sarret," as well as the U.S. premiere and a brief run of his latest film "Guelwaar." Although African films were already being made in Europe and in Africa, Sembene's simple yet elegant

take of a Dakar cart-driver in "Borom Sarret" emerged as a revolutionary vision the likes of which the world had never before seen. When it debuted in 1963, the 20-minute film signaled a post-colonial, indigenous voice and perspective coming into its own in a stark and evocative fashion. Sembene, once again explores contemporary African politics and religion in his latest film, "Guelwaar," the story of a political activist who dies violently. (continued on page 10)

## African-American media moguls announce launch of world's first premium cable network for the African-American community

LOS ANGELES, CA—World African Network has officially unveiled plans to launch the world's first premium cable network to provide programming specifically for the 35 million African Americans in the United States.

Eugene Jackson, president and chairman of Unity Broadcasting, Inc., the parent company of World African Network said, "We are going to take an aggressive approach in the management of our images," said Jackson.

World African Network will launch in June 1994, bringing together a team of top African-American businessmen and entertainment luminaries. With startup costs projected at approximately \$15 million, Jackson, who serves as chairman and chief executive of World African Network, added that the launch of the new cable network will culminate a three-year dream of his to bring high-quality, socially responsible programming to the African-American community.

Jackson, who retains a controlling interest in World African Network's equity partnership, will handle the daily operation and administration of the cable network.

World African Network's other founding partners include Percy Sutton, chairman emeritus of Inner City Broadcasting Corp. and general partner of New York's Apollo Theater Foundation; Phyllis Tucker Vinson, former vice president of children's and family programs for the NBC television network; Clarence

Avant, owner of Tubu Records as well as worldwide publishing companies Avant Garde Music and Interior Music; and Sidney Small, co-founder of the Unity Broadcasting Network and National Black Network.

The World African Network will air 24 hours a day, seven days a week, with programming focusing on both existing and original entertainment. Existing programming will include theatrically released movies, both from major studios and from independent producers, made-for-television movies, selected television series, concerts, sports and documentary programs.

Original programming will be designed to provide an African-American perspective on existing programs. This will include profiles of and interviews with celebrities and newsmakers as well as a behind-the-scenes look at film, television, music and sports figures from the African-American community.

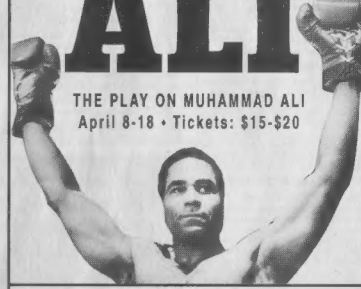
Designed to advance and expand upon the cable programming currently in existence for African Americans, the World African Network will be delivered via satellite to the cable systems which have significant coverage of the African-American population.

"The network will provide us with the opportunity to promote available African-American productions and talent to the community. It will also endow us with the ability to utilize those same services and talents in launching, promoting and marketing this network."

The launch of the World African Network has been applauded by African-American celebrities, political figures and members of the community across the United States.

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# Business Calendar

**SATURDAY, APRIL 3**  
**BRANCHBURG**—Dr. Neal Goodman, an internationally recognized authority in human resource management and organizational development, will teach "Cross Cultural Strategies for International Business" from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Barlett Valley Community College. For more information or to register call 908-526-1002, ext. 510.

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7**  
**SUMMIT**—Central Jersey Chamber of Commerce presents "Business After Hours" at the Grand Summit Hotel, 570 Springfield Avenue. Perfect opportunity to develop and meet new business contacts. Admission is \$12 for Chamber Members and \$15 for non-Chamber Members. For information contact Central Jersey Chamber of Commerce, Plainfield.

**NORTH BRANCH**—Representatives from the U.S. Department of Labor and the Department of Commerce will be at Haddon Valley Community College to give local employers information on how to apply for Workforce Development Partnership Program. For additional information call 908-218-8874.

**THURSDAY, APRIL 8**  
**PLAINFIELD**—The Central Jersey Chamber of Commerce invites you to lunch with Gary Edwards, candidate for mayor, at noon at the Plainfield Country Club, Woodland Avenue. Tickets \$30. Reservations are required. For more information call 908-754-7250.

**TUESDAY, APRIL 13**  
**TRENTON**—As part of its "Business Over Breakfast" Series, Mercer County Community College will hold a session entitled "Increase Employee Productivity by Incentive" focusing on successful ways to get employees to work more, sell more, and express more interest in the operation. For registration information call 609-586-6446.

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14**  
**EDISON**—State of New Jersey Department of Commerce & Economic Development will hold a networking event, "Make Contacts, Get Contracts," from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Edison Convention Center. To assist small, minority owned and women owned businesses in contact making with leading corporate and government buyers. For more information call 609-292-3660.

## LEGAL NOTICE

### NJ TRANSIT PUBLIC NOTICE

**NEW JERSEY TRANSIT CORPORATION  
REQUEST FOR FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE UNDER  
THE INTERMODAL SURFACE TRANSPORTATION  
EFFICIENCY ACT OF 1991**

The New Jersey Transit Corporation (NJ TRANSIT), under provisions of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA), gives notice of its intent to apply for supplemental funding as may be available under the proposed Economic Stimulus Bill. Application will be made for \$26.5 million in Section 9 Formula funds for the projects listed below. \$32.0 million in Section 3 Bus Discretionary funds for the rehabilitation of the Market Street bus maintenance facility, \$0.4 million in Section 16(b)(2) funds for the purchase of vehicles for the provision of transportation services for senior citizens and disabled persons, and \$0.5 million in Section 18 funds for the purchase of vehicles for the provision of transportation services in non-urbanized areas. Should additional funding become available, NJ TRANSIT will select from the contingency projects listed below. NJ TRANSIT will provide the Federal share of grants for all of the projects through credit for toll revenues as allowed by Sections 1044 of the ISTEA.

Proposed Section 9 Projects	Federal Funds in Millions of Dollars
Metropark Parking Garage Construction	\$10.0
Environmental Compliance Program	\$0.9
Exchange Place Transit Hub Construction	\$0.6
Point Pleasant and Asbury Park Rail Station Improvements	\$1.1
Newark Shops Maintenance Training Center Construction	\$0.6

Proposed Section 9 Contingency Projects	
Newark Shops Maintenance Training Center	\$00.9
Cherry Hill Rail Station Construction	\$01.0
Piscataway Junction Parked Area Construction	\$00.8
Drew Coker Quarters Construction	\$00.7
Eboron Rail Station Construction	\$00.6

**A. Property Acquisition/Environmental, Economic, and Social Aspects**  
Any property acquisition or relocation that may be required will be conducted in accordance with the appropriate provisions of the relevant regulatory requirements. As appropriate, the social, economic, environmental, and relocation aspects of the projects will be investigated. NJ TRANSIT will adhere to all Federal and State environmental statutes and regulations as well as those affecting properties on the National Register of Historic Places.

**B. Comprehensive Planning**  
NJ TRANSIT projects are developed in coordination with the following planning organizations: The North Jersey Transportation Coordinating Council (NJTCC), which is the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Northeast New Jersey urbanized area; the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC), which is the designated MPO for the Camden, Trenton, Burlington, and Gloucester urbanized areas; the Wilmington Metropolitan Area Planning Coordinating Council (WILMAPCO), which is the MPO for the Wilmington urbanized area; the Atlantic City Urban Area Transportation Council (ACUATC), which is the MPO for the Atlantic City urbanized area; and the Cumberland County Urban Area Transportation Study (CQUATS), which is the MPO for the Cumberland County urbanized area. The MPOs are the forums for the decision making concerning the proposed projects. The projects will be developed in consultation with local elected officials, interested citizens, and providers of transit bus services.

**C. Private Enterprise Participation**  
Through the comprehensive planning process administered by the MPOs and ongoing communication with NJ TRANSIT's Office of Carrier Administration, NJ TRANSIT will continue to discuss with private carriers their participation in the proposed program. In addition, NJ TRANSIT encourages to the maximum extent possible, the participation of the private sector in the development and implementation of public transportation in the State of New Jersey.

**D. Senior Citizens and Disabled**  
Services to be provided will be consistent with NJ TRANSIT's program of reduced interstate and intrastate rail and bus fares for senior citizens and disabled persons. Every reasonable effort will be made to plan and design program elements involving facilities generally available to the public with careful consideration of the special needs of senior citizens and disabled persons.

**E. Public Input**  
NJ TRANSIT invites public comments on the above projects and its performance. Written comments and/or requests for a public hearing may be sent to Albert R. Haskins, Senior Director of Corporate Affairs, NJ TRANSIT, One Penn Plaza East, Newark, New Jersey 07102-2246 by April 30, 1993. Based on comments received in response to this notice and information made available, NJ TRANSIT may modify the above programs before final submission to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and will make a determination, pursuant to FTA regulations, as to whether a public hearing is in order.

**SHIRLEY A. DELIBERO  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
NEW JERSEY TRANSIT CORPORATION**

# City & Business Growth & Jobs Summit

## Mayor Schundler organizes event to bring greater recognition to the benefits of doing business in Jersey City

**JERSEY CITY** — Mayor Bret Schundler and his staff are preparing for the Jersey City Growth and Jobs Summit to be held at the Harborside Financial Center on Jersey City's waterfront on Saturday, April 3.

The Summit is the brainchild of Mayor Schundler and has been organized in an effort to bring greater recognition to the benefits of doing business in Jersey City. In a cooperative effort with the Department of Housing and Economic Development, Mayor Aldo Rizzo Corrado has assembled a team of individuals to organize the two-day event. Informative seminars will be held during the event, each focusing on various aspects of Jersey City's viability as a location for corporate relocation.

The morning session, from 10:30 to 11:45 a.m., is entitled "The Economic Renaissance Unfolding in New Jersey's Future Largest City." Among the topics to be covered during the session is the mayor's view on the benefits of locating in Jersey City; corporate job transfers; the light rail transit system, which is already underway in the Marion Section of the City and will help alleviate congestion on the City's thoroughfares; the

recently approved urban enterprise zone program and benefits it provides for businesses within the zone; the Liberty Science Center, the arts community; the Loews Theater Project; ethnic markets and patchwork celebrations; and the Mayor Schundler's proposed Parking Master Plan to alleviate some of the problems with parking.

A luncheon for state legislators will be held from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. During the luncheon, the discussion will turn to binding arbitration reform, urban enterprise zone amendments; light rail stop, hospitals and medical reform, municipal revitalization aid, arts grants and property tax relief.

During the afternoon session, 2:30 p.m., the theme will be "Jersey City for the People." Among the topics to be covered are making the streets safe and the idea of community-based policing; the on-going projects, as well as plans for future projects and rehabilitations, to help housing for all; property taxes; health care; education; recreation; senior citizens' services; expanding opportunities for minorities in the private sector and in gaining city contracts;

and elevating the citizens' moral spirit. Also during the day, a Developers' Showcase will offer the opportunity for developers to showcase their projects and give potential tenants an opportunity to discuss directly with a project developer their interest in, and questions about, the benefits of locating in Jersey City.



## Newark YMWCA president honored for achievements

Councilman George Branch (l) and Councilman Henry Martinez (r) award Milton Harrison (2nd from right), president & CEO of the Newark YMWCA, with a plaque in recognition of his efforts in developing and implementing the recovery and remediation of the Newark YMWCA. The plaque awarded cites the achievements of Mr. Harrison for his outstanding leadership in turning the Y around and restoring it to its former status in the City of Newark as a premiere social service agency. Mr. Harrison holds the plaque with Chairman of the Y Board of Directors, James Coleman.

## LEGAL NOTICE

### ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID

**PROJECT NO. NJ-8-1 AND NJ-8-3  
HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF LONG BRANCH  
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, GARFIELD COURT  
P.O. BOX 336, LONG BRANCH, N.J. 07740**

Separate sealed bids for the construction of an Addition to the existing Administration Building, Construction of a New Maintenance Building, and Recreation Center at Garfield Court (NJ-8-1); Construction of a New Community Building at Seaview Manor (NJ-8-3).

The Housing Authority of the City of Long Branch will receive sealed bids on April 8, 1993 at the office of the Housing Authority of the City of Long Branch, Garfield Court Administration Building, P.O. Box 336, Long Branch, N.J. 07740 until 10:00 a.m. and then at said office publicly open and read aloud.

Bids must be submitted prior to the designated time for acceptance and opening of bids and may be submitted by mail or in person, by the BIDDER or his agent. No bids will be accepted after the designated time.

Bids must be enclosed in sealed envelopes bearing the name BIDDER and marked "Bids for New Building Package."

The information for Bidders, form of Bid, Form of Contract, Plans, Specifications and Forms of Bid Bond, Performance and Payment bond, and other contract documents may be examined at

The Housing Authority of the City of Long Branch, Long Branch, NJ, offices, and James C. Anderson Associates, Inc., 907 Pleasant Valley Avenue, Mt. Laurel, NJ 08054 (609) 728-8700 offices.

Copies may be obtained at the office of The Housing Authority of the City of Long Branch located at Garfield Court, Administration Building, Rockwell Avenue, Long Branch, N.J. 07740 upon payment of a non-refundable \$125.00 deposit for each copy.

Each Proposal shall be accompanied by a guarantee payable to the Housing Authority that, if a contract is awarded, the BIDDER shall enter into contract therefor, and shall furnish a performance bond (100%) and a Material and Labor Bond (100%). The performance bond shall be in the amount of ten percent (10%) up to \$200,000.00 and five percent (5%) anything over \$200,000.00 of the bid, and all shall be given, at the option of the BIDDER, by certified check, cashier's check or Bid Bond.

The Surety Company for Bid Bond and the Surety Company for Performance and Payment Bonds must be licensed in New Jersey State and must be approved by the Federal Treasury.

The owner reserves the right to waive any formalities or to reject any or all bids.

Each bidder must deposit with his bid, security in the amount, form and subject to the conditions provided in the information for Bidders.

Interested bidders are particularly called to the requirements as to conditions of employment to be observed and minimum wage rates to be paid under the contract.

No bidder may draw his bid within 60 days after the actual date of the opening thereof.

**Pre-Bid Meeting:** There will be a pre-bid meeting held at Garfield Court Administration Building, Rockwell Avenue, Long Branch, NJ, on March 29, 1993 at 10:00 a.m. **AM prevailing time.**

**3/24/93 DAVID A. BROWN  
ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

### REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FEE ACCOUNTING SERVICES

The Housing and Redevelopment Authority of the City of Asbury Park is seeking proposals for Fee Accounting for its Low-Income Housing Program, Existing Housing Certificates Program, Moderate Rehabilitation Program, and Modernization Program for the period April 1, 1993 and terminating March 31, 1994. The following are quality merit factors with the corresponding relative weights.

Factor	Weight
1. Experience in Housing and Urban Development HUD accounting and financial management procedures, as it relates to federal housing authorities in operating budgets and grant applications.	50%
2. Experience as fee accountant, with designation of certified public accountant with a minimum of 5 years with governmental authorities and agencies.	30%
3. Thorough knowledge of public law and federal procurement requirements 24 CFR 85.36. Must have thorough understanding of modernization quarterly reports and closeout documents.	15%
4. Price.	5%

Interested parties should request proposal packages by writing to Kenneth E. Nixon, Jr., Executive Director, Asbury Park Housing Authority, 1000 Y Third Avenue, Asbury Park, New Jersey 07712.

## LEGAL NOTICE

### HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF ASBURY PARK NOTICE FOR CONSULTANT

The Housing Authority of the City of Asbury Park is inviting submittals from persons interested in performing professional consulting services as a Comprehensive Grant Program Administrator, Administrator of Maintenance and Operation. This in one position and the scope of services includes:

- Comprehensive Grant Program Administrator**
1. Directs preparation of Comprehensive Grant Program application.
  2. Administers all phases of Comprehensive Grant Program budget and prepares necessary budget revisions.
  3. Prepares all reports and the correspondence relating to the Comprehensive Grant Program for the contract officer.
  4. Will be responsible for administering and preparing Public Housing Management Assessment Program (PHMAP).

**Will also administer existing Modernization projects**

1. Directs preparation of existing CIAP application.
2. Administers all phases of the existing CIAP budget and prepares necessary budget revisions.
3. Reviews.
4. Leads in the selection of professional A/E firms and make recommendation to the contract officer.
5. Supervises the entire construction contract procedure.
6. Prepares all reports and the correspondence relating to the existing CIAP program for the contract officer.

**And will also administer Operations**

1. Directs preparation of major maintenance contracts and purchases.
2. Supervises administration of major maintenance contracts and purchases.
3. Monitors budgetary and time constraints involved in the implementation of major maintenance programs.
4. Coordinates with the maintenance supervisory staff.

The consultant will serve directly under the supervision of the Contract Officer and/or Executive Director.

All proposals will be ranked using the following quality/merit factors with the corresponding weights.

Factor	Weight
1. Technical and professional experience	40%
2. Capability to perform services in a timely manner	25%
3. Past performance with CIAP and major maintenance program activity	15%
4. Thorough knowledge of HUD regulations relative to CIAP, Maintenance and Procurement	10%
5. General response to the invitation	5%
6. Price	5%

Interested firms or individuals should respond by 10 a.m., April 16, 1993 to Kenneth E. Nixon, Jr., Executive Director, Asbury Park Housing Authority, 1000 Y Third Avenue, Asbury Park, New Jersey 07712.

**3/31/93 KENNETH E. NIXON, JR.  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

### HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF EAST ORANGE PUBLIC NOTICE

The Housing Authority of the City of East Orange is accepting applications for its two (2) low-income senior citizens, 8 story elevator buildings, commencing Wednesday, April 7, 1993. Rents are based on low income limits and definitions established by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. VISTA VILLAGE is located at 70 South Burnet St., East Orange and is centrally located between Central Ave. and Main St. CONCORD TOWERS is located at 210 North Grove St., near Park Avenue. Each building has laundry facilities on premises, community rooms and adequate parking.

To qualify for Senior Citizen Housing one must be 62 years of age or older. Federal preference will be given to applicants who are disabled; occupying substandard housing; paying in excess of 50% of their income for rent.

Local preference will be given to persons who live or work in East Orange. Priority will be given to persons in the following order:

1. Persons who claim Federal Preference
2. Persons who claim Local Preference (East Orange residents)
3. Date and time of application

The East Orange Housing Authority does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, creed, sex, age or handicap.

You may apply at the Housing Management office located at 70 South Burnet Street, East Orange, on Wednesdays and Thursdays ONLY, and ONLY between the hours of 10:00 A.M. and 12:00 Noon.

There will be a public notice to announce the closing of the waiting list.





# Spotlight

by R.L. Greene

It was a simple, straightforward statement: "Shaquille O'Neal is today's Will Chamberlain."

The response was just as quick: "No way."

Of course, the second respondent had ammunition. He started with, "You're too young. You never really saw Will in action."

It was a typical discussion between two co-workers. Yet the disagreement really wasn't over the dominating abilities of either Will Chamberlain or the man-boy of the Orlando Magic. In reality, it was just another eruption of the generation gap.

Things were always better in my youth, right? Or worse, if you're talking about something bad.

For example: We had more big storms and heavier snowfall when we were kids.

Our schools taught us more than today's schools are teaching our children.

There were better movies to see when we were younger, and more of them.

So, it's an easy step to giving the heroes of our youth a super-superstar aura. But, then again, weren't they just that.

Even old-timers will admit the Michael Jordan is the best guard to play in the National Basketball Association. But part of that's because they have changed the criteria of the players. In our day, the old-timers say, Air Jordan would be soaring from the forward post, and they're not sure he's that much better than, say, Elgin Baylor, he with the tick in his neck and the deadly one-handed jumper in his arsenal of tricks.

At guard, then, would be Oscar

Robertson. Now who can beat the Big O in the backcourt, although, to be honest about it, Jerry West was a super-bad dude when it came to shooting and ball-handling? But Oscar was the best.

As good as all of these Hall of Famers were, and as good as today's soaring, swooping, dunking, backboard-rattling stars are, Will Chamberlain stood alone.

OK. So he didn't win the championships. That was Bill Russell's forte, leading the Boston Celtics to the title almost every year.

Otherwise, Will dominated basketball as no other person has in any other sport. Probably the only record in sports that will never be broken is Chamberlain's averaging 50 points per game for an entire season. Today, when Air Jordan scores more than 50 points, it's a big headline.

And when there were complaints that he couldn't rebound as well as Russell, Chamberlain led the NBA in rebounding.

OK, his detractors then said. But you're selfish, just shooting and rebounding. So Will led the NBA in assists.

"At various points in my career, I led the league in scoring, rebounding, assists and blocked shots," Chamberlain wrote in his book, *A View From Above*. "Show me one other

player in the history of the game who did all that."

In fact, in his entire career, Chamberlain never had a game in which he grabbed fewer than 10 rebounds. But he himself says he had a greater fear.

"In my third season in the NBA, I only missed seven minutes the entire season. I won 51 straight games without missing a minute, then came out for three minutes. In one other game, I sat for four minutes."

True, today's game is different. And there's really no way to fairly compare superstars from different eras. Even the record books can be misleading; for example, today's players are better shooters, so there should be fewer rebounds to grab.

Yes, Will Chamberlain was a giant during his time. And he was from the first day he stepped onto the court.

Shaquille O'Neal, on the other hand, is a center with loads of ability and tremendous promise. But he's not immediately way better than Patrick Ewing or Hakeem Olajuwon or David Robinson.

He's young and will make mistakes. He's very, very good, make no mistake about that. But comparing him to Will?

And remember that snowstorm back in '42. We don't get 'em like that anymore, do we?

## Newark athletics

'Mayor's Basketball Tournament' tips off: Officials of Newark's Division of Recreation and Cultural Affairs (DORCA) recently announced that the "Mayor's Basketball Tournament" will be held April 12-16 at WestSide High School's gymnasium, 403 South Orange Avenue.

Registration for the competition is now open, and the deadline for completed rosters and refundable fees is April 2. Registration forms can be obtained at the Recreation/Cultural Affairs division, Room B-23, City Hall.

The refundable application fee (cash only) must be submitted with the completed roster. It will be re-

tumed if teams do not forfeit any games, the coordinators said.

The tournament teams will consist of two divisions, male and female, and three age categories, 9-14, 15-17 and 18 and over. According to Roslyn Lightfoot, DORCA manager, interested individuals must register quickly because only the first ten teams registered in each division will be selected.

For more information, please contact the DORCA office 201-733-3749.

Softball league forms teams: The organizers of the City of Newark Softball League have announced that league officials are accepting team and indi-

vidual applications for the upcoming softball season.

According to Juanita Jordan, league commissioner, the softball league is open to municipal agencies, corporations and other government offices.

The Newark co-ed softball league's season runs from May 1 to August 30. The games are played at Kaseberg Field (North Fifth Street and Third Avenue) and Westcubic Park. Registration forms are available in Rooms B-26 and 109 of City Hall.

For more information, please contact Jordan, 201-733-3778, or Darlene Tate 201-733-8050.

## As I See It...

(continued from page 4)

Clinton Williams, husband of school board member Corina Kay, may have inadvertently been a victim of the firefighting when his appointment to the Board of Fire Commissioners was rejected by a 4-4 vote.

Anyone who knows Clint Williams knows he's anything but controversial, and not as politically involved as his retired school principal wife.

Mr. Williams, a retired physio therapist, is quiet, easy going and level headed at all times. He is considered one of Mayor Cooper's outstanding appointments to any city department. This was emphasized by council president Thomas when he chastised the council for not supporting Williams, especially since no one had raised any questions about the appointment beforehand.

Blake, Thigpen, Thomas and Charles Robinson, Jr.

supported Williams for the unsalaried post. Claude Craig, Carolyn Meschan, Mary Patterson and Assemblywoman-Councilwoman Quilla Talmadge voted against him.

Meanwhile, Mayor Cooper had sworn Williams into office on an acting basis. He had attended a meeting and participated in a crucial vote and was thought to have the votes necessary to make his post official when the council met last week.

But then again, it goes to show nothing is "official" in East Orange these days until it's a done deal. Albeit, sweet mystery of politics in this once, quiet suburban enclave.

Next week: as tale of two cities. What happened when Governor Florio showed up for Mayor Sharpe James' birthday bash; and the governor's meeting with Rev. Dr. DeForest (Buster) Soaners, Jr., pastor of the First Baptist Church of Lincoln Garden in Somerset, New Jersey.

## 'Modern Days, Ancient Nights...'

(continued from page 5)

to, in the horror of his friends and family, his body disappears from the morgue.

The Festival will also focus on "Creating Traditions: African Film Masterworks," featuring twelve recognized "classics" of African cinema. Films by Burkina Faso master Idrissa Ouedraogo and Gaston Kabore; Mali's Souleymane Cisse; Cameroon's Jean-Marie Teno; Mauritania's Mod Hondo; and the Ivory Coast's Henri Duparc and Desire Ezeke will be featured. In this section, the rich history of Senegalese filmmaking will be traced from Sembene to Djibril Diop-Mambey, to Moussa Bathily (Diop-Mambey's former assistant), Safi Faye, and Mansour Sora Wade.

According to Richard Peta, "There is no film movement which holds out more promise for the future" than African films.

"Emerging Visions: New African Cinema" will feature sixteen new films, including Flora Gomes' "The Blue Eyes of Yonta," which was recently selected for the 22nd New Directors' Festival. Also included is the U.S. Premiere of Idrissa Ouedraogo's "Samia Traore." Also included is one of the most popular African films of recent years, "Giro, The Ungrateful."

The films in "Emerging Visions" represent an extraordinary range of cinematic styles and approaches. As part of "Modern Days, Ancient Nights: Thirty Years of African Film-making," a number of panel discussions will also be presented.

The Museum of African Art (212-966-1375) will host a discussion on "The Films of Ousmane Sembene" on Thursday, April 8, at 6:30 p.m. — The Black Filmmaker Foundation (The Studio Museum in Harlem) will present "African and African-American Filmmakers: A Dialogue," at the Studio Museum (212-864-4500) Saturday, April 10 at 7 p.m.

New York University (212-998-3970) will present a discussion on "Contemporary African Cinema" Friday, April 23 at 8 p.m. and Saturday, April 24 at 1 p.m.

Many of the screenings at the Walter Reade Theater will be introduced by the filmmaker or a guest speaker and followed by a discussion. Films are either in English or have English subtitles.

The Walter Reade Theater is located at 165 West 65th Street, plaza level. Ticket prices are \$7 for the public, \$5 for Senior Citizen Members and \$4 for senior citizen weekday matinees. The Box Office is open from 1:30 p.m. to 15 minutes after the last show begins. The Box Office number is 212-875-5600.

For information about the presentation at the Brooklyn Museum or a brochure with details about the Brooklyn screenings, call 718-638-5000, ext. 230.

<b>Pathmark</b> Antiseptic Cleanser 2oz. tube \$2.99	<b>Pathmark</b> Epsom Salt 4oz. box \$2.99	<b>Pathmark</b> Pathadryl Allergy Medicine 24 capsules, 25 mg each \$1.24	<b>Pathmark</b> Gas Relief Drops for Children 1oz. bottle \$3.99	<b>Pathmark</b> Menthol Gel 16oz. box \$2.99	<b>Pathmark</b> Pathtapp Tablets 24ct. box \$2.93	<b>Pathmark</b> Pathadine Nasal Tablets 100ct. box \$3.49
<b>Denorex Shampoo</b> with Conditioner 8 oz. bottle \$7.99	<b>Denorex Shampoo</b> with Conditioner Extra Strength 8 oz. bottle \$7.99	<b>Pedia Care Night Rest</b> 4 oz. box \$5.49	<b>Pedia Care Cold Allergy Tablets</b> Chewable 10 ct. box \$4.59	<b>Pedia Care Liquid Cough—Cold</b> 4 oz. bottle \$5.49	<b>Pilot Spot Lighter</b> Anti-Shocks 1.6 g. 99¢	<b>Tylenol Headache Plus</b> Extra Strength 80 or 100 Capslets \$10.99
<b>Tylenol PM Extra Strength</b> Tablets 24 ct. box \$4.59	<b>Tylenol PM Extra Strength</b> Capslets 24 ct. box \$4.59	<b>Tylenol Suspension Liquid</b> Children's 8 oz. box \$6.99	<b>Tylenol Extra Strength</b> Capslets 20 ct. box \$5.99	<b>Tylenol Headache Plus</b> Extra Strength Capslets 24 ct. box \$2.99	<b>Tylenol Headache Plus</b> Extra Strength Capslets 24 ct. box \$6.99	<b>Tylenol Children's Suspension</b> Lemon Cherry 2oz. bottle \$3.99
<b>Nuprin Tablets</b> 24 ct. box \$3.79	<b>Myalanta Tablets</b> 100 ct. conc. \$5.99	<b>Myalanta Tablets</b> Double Strength 100 ct. box \$5.99	<b>Myalanta Gas Tablets</b> 12 ct. box \$2.99	<b>Myalanta Gas Tablets</b> 40 ct. box \$7.99	<b>Myalanta Maximum Strength</b> Gas Tablets 10 ct. box \$2.79	<b>Donnagel Liquid</b> 4 oz. bottle \$3.59
<b>Alka-Seltzer</b> 12 ct. \$2.49	<b>Tylenol Effervescent Cold Tablets</b> 30 ct. box \$4.69	<b>Tylenol Night Time Cold</b> 7.5 oz. box \$5.99	<b>Tylenol Cold &amp; Flu Hot Medication</b> Packets 6 ct. box \$4.99	<b>Tylenol Cold &amp; Flu Formula</b> No Drowsiness Packets 6 ct. box \$4.99	<b>Tylenol Children's Cold Tablets</b> 4 ct. box \$3.89	<b>Tylenol Children's Cold Liquid</b> 4 oz. bottle \$5.99
<b>Tylenol Children's Cold and Cough</b> Liquid 4 oz. bottle \$5.99	<b>Tylenol Liquid Cough</b> With Decongestant 8 oz. bottle \$7.99	<b>Debrox Drops</b> 0.5 oz. conc. \$6.39	<b>Sine-Aid Tablets</b> 24 ct. box \$5.19	<b>Sine-Aid Caplets</b> 24 ct. box \$5.19	<b>Sine-Aid Gelpacs</b> 20 ct. box \$5.19	<b>L'Oréal Advantage Hair Color</b> Cream 1 application \$4.99



# *Salute to* *The Black Church*

## **Walk in the Spirit**

*But the fruit of the Spirit  
is love, joy, peace,  
longsuffering,  
gentleness,  
goodness, faith,  
Meekness, temperance:  
against such  
there is no law.*

*And they that are  
Christ's have crucified  
the flesh with the  
affections and lusts.  
If we live in the Spirit,  
let us also  
walk in the Spirit.  
Let us not be desirous  
of vain glory, provoking  
one another, envying  
one another.*

*— Galatians 5:22-26*



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# Rebuilding the black church

*Black ministers speak out on the problems facing the black church and urban communities*

by Nicol Diarra Davis

For a community that has been denied opportunities and identity, the black church has historically been a strong support mechanism.

Beginning during the era of slavery, the black church was the only source of refuge from the daily indignities on the plantations. Preachers spoke of salvation that gave blacks strength to continue each day.

When slavery was abolished, the church introduced blacks to education. Many of the historically black colleges were founded by the institution of the black church.

During the civil rights era, the black church gave rise to many of the leaders that were at the forefront of the Movement. Due in part to the fact that black preachers were expected to be teachers, educators, counselors and orators, church leaders such as Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., Rev. Andrew Young, Rev. Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., Rev. Ralph Abernathy and Rev. Benjamin Hooks were able to inspire the black community to fight for equality and justice.

Today, with the many ills infecting the black community, the black church seems to be losing its influence over its people. Many in the community have lost faith in the church's ability to deliver salvation.

In a time when many church leaders are criticized for their passiveness, Rev. Reginald Jackson of St. Matthew's A.M.E. Church in Orange is far from reticent when it comes to the subject of the problems confronting the black church and urban communities. According to Rev. Jackson, the black church is the only thing that the black community truly owns. It should serve, therefore, as the community's source of power, or empowerment.

"The black church in the urban community, one, must call our community to task for its own sins; and, two, play a leadership role in helping to shape what that community will be like," Jackson says.

The pastor said that making the Gospel of Jesus Christ relevant to the community is one of the most pressing challenges confronting the black church.

"Not because it's

not relevant but because we are not doing a good job of helping people relate to it in their daily living," he explains.

He feels that empowerment of the community is another big problem.

"It's a problem because we're really not empowering the community. We've allowed the political folk, educational folk, social scientists, [etc.] to try to do that, and it really hasn't worked," the Reverend says. "For example, we have more black elected officials than we've ever had; the community is not better. We have more money now than we've ever had; we have more people who are poor than we've ever had."

Jackson says that quality of life in the community seems to go down with the more 'things' it obtains, "So it's not so much things that change community, it's the people; and unless you change people, you're not going to change the community."

Jackson also says that the black church needs to have enough faith and courage "to be faithful to the path before us." This means, he claims, that it is the responsibility of the church to be faithful and courageous enough to call its community to task for its sins.

"For example, consider the fact that in the United States, we have more children born out of wedlock than we have born in wedlock," he explains. "We have moral values which have declined while immoral behavior has dramatically increased; we have black on black crime; we have the break up of the black family. The black church has to speak to its own community and they have to take responsibility for how we have done these things to ourselves."

The pastor says that blacks can not continue to blame everyone else for "what's wrong" with them, especially when they often allow themselves to be get down.

He noted the fact that Newark, East Orange, Orange and Irvington are predominantly black cities with black mayors and black council.

"You can not blame other folk for the condition of these cities all together when in fact you're the one who's making the

(continued on page A-5)



Rev. Reginald Jackson of St. Matthew's A.M.E. Church in Orange

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# 'We Are One'

The following speech was given by Roger Shults before Mt. Zion AME Church in 1991. Though some of the references were made to events and situations of the time that may no longer exist, the message in the speech is still extremely relevant today. It embodies the message that City News would like to pass on in this special Black Church edition.

by Roger Shults

I have given this talk the title "We Are One." My theme is that we are one people and we can only realize the dream of freedom, justice, and equality for all if we unite and work together.

In I Cor., 12 the Apostle Paul paints a verbal picture of the church and compares it to our human body. He makes the point that the body parts are diverse yet united. Two verses in the passage are especially relevant to what I will say.

12:14- *For the body is not one member, but many.*

12:20- *But now are they many member, yet but one body.*

The parallel I make is that we are identified as a group of people, yet we are all individuals. And regardless of our individuality and uniqueness, we are still part of the group.

My purpose this morning is to present a few thoughts in the spirit of commemorating Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday. His birthday is recognized as a state and national holiday only because of the hard work of elected black legislators. However, in spite of laws that have been passed, some states refuse to recognize it and most private corporations ignore it.

Martin Luther King Jr. stood as a "voice crying in the wilderness" of America's hatred, prejudice, and injustice. While he lived, he spoke the truth about conditions in America and uncovered, for the world to see, the scandalous way that black people in this country were treated. Like Moses standing before the Egyptian Pharaoh, he stood before the politically powerful pleading for justice and equality. And like an Isaiah, he cried aloud, spared not, and lifted up his voice like a trumpet in the cause of freedom.

Dr. King delivered his most well known speech from the steps of the Lincoln Memorial during the March on Washington on August 28 of 1963. In the speech he acknowledged the trials, tribulations, persecution, and suffering that some of his hearers had experienced. How they made personal sacrifices to advance the cause of liberty; and, through personal and direct involvement in the Civil Rights movement, they moved forward the principle of justice. He concluded the speech by recounting his dream that equality, freedom, and justice would become a reality for all citizens of America.

Some of us remember that speech because we were there. Others because we heard it on radio or TV. Do you remember what was happening in the country at the time? Do you remember what led the leaders of the Civil Rights Movement to call on its followers to peacefully assemble and march in protest on this nation's government? Do you remember sit-ins, freedom rides, Brown vs. Board of Education, National Guard troops, bus boycotts, and nonviolent demonstrations? And, if you grew up in this area, do you remember how you were treated in the old Oxford Theater, the Liberty

Theater, or at Grunings?

Dr. King eloquently gave voice to the hopes and aspirations of black Americans and other disenfranchised people of these United States. He spoke for them when he spoke about his dream for this country: That equal justice and equal opportunity would be a reality for all. King led a movement that pressed toward a goal and achieved dramatic results. He was at the forefront of the Movement that gave birth to the Civil Rights Bill, and saw the Fair Housing Bill, and the Voting Rights Bill signed into law. It was a movement that led to Equal Employment, Affirmative Action and was instrumental in making equal educational opportunity the law of the land.

The status of black Americans in 1991 is far different from what it was in 1963. Progress has been made. We can ride in the front of the bus

(they even let us drive it), and use the same waiting room as other travelers. We can go in the front door and eat at the lunch counter. We can drink from the same water fountain; we can use the same restrooms; we can register at the same motels and hotels. We are on the television every night as newscasters. Blacks occupy positions of importance in the government, private business, and the military. There are even black corporations which have made outstanding progress in growing their business and serving all segments of society.

*We have come a long way.*

By many measurements, blacks are doing better today than they were in 1963. Our life expectancy has increased. More of our boys and girls are graduating from high school. More of our young people are graduating from college today. And we have increased the number of black elected officials by over 400%.

*It seems like we are on the way.*

*In spite of the progress that has been made and the good that exists, there is too much wrong for us to say we have arrived.*

of articles about career opportunities for the 1990's. It shows a number of our people, employed in all industries, who are vice presidents, managers, partners, and owners. They hold responsible jobs — that

(continued on page A-6)

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New Jersey Governor Jim Florio

by Michelle Odom

"I derive great strength and inspiration from what I see and what I hear here today," said Governor Jim Florio, "because it tells me that there is a hunger coming together; there is a hunger for economic empowerment; there is a hunger for an understanding that we must seek after not only

justice in its narrowest sense, but economic justice in the broadest sense of the word..."

This theme was highlighted during the Second Annual Economic Empowerment Expo, held last weekend in New Brunswick, sponsored by the First Baptist Church of Lincoln Gardens, Community Development Corporation in Somerset.

Rev. Dr. Buster Soaries, pastor of First Baptist Church, said the Expo "was a great success."

"It represents our commitment to economic empowerment and using the resources of our church to circulate economic opportunities around our community," he said.

"We wanted to give African-

American businesses a chance to be exposed to the community to let people know who they are," said Eric Johnson, chairperson of the weekend-long event which featured display booths for 57 minority business people, book signing receptions and free tax preparation services for the elderly.

"A lot of these folks don't have store fronts and don't really have the wherewithal to advertise, so this gave them a chance for exposure," said Johnson. "We also had some corporate representation, which gave people who sell goods and services a chance to meet corporate people that do purchasing, and get exposed that way as well."

In his speech, the governor said he has been talking to people all over the state "to make sure that we don't do things that are counterproductive" to the objec-

tive of ameliorating the crime and poverty in New Jersey's urban areas.

"Wherever it is we're going as a state, ladies and gentlemen, we're going there together," he said, "and hopefully it is not going to be that we will go to the swamp of division, the swamp of despair, but rather what we want to do is to go to the high ground of hope, the high ground of opportunity. That's what we're all about."

Instead of dealing with people's sometimes violent and destructive reactions to poverty with more violence and destruction, Florio explained that some sectors of the community are taking a more positive problem-solving approach through development of locally-owned and controlled businesses and social services.

Governor Florio praised New

Community Corporation in Newark, which provides affordable housing, daycare services, and a supermarket to the community.

"And that's what it is — people coming together and being empowered through collaboration on the economic front, and of course that helps the community," the governor said. "If you lift the community, you start dealing with some of the pathologies — creating jobs, being able to take care of children, providing homes — those things are fully compatible with the message and the reason we are here today."

The First Baptist Community Development Corporation, like New Community, is a not-for-profit organization founded to sponsor economic and social initiatives of benefit to the surrounding communities, New Brunswick

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## Rebuilding the black church

(continued from page A-3)

basic decisions," Jackson says. "The black church has to address those issues. We can no longer simply put people in office because they're black. . . You really need a definition of black. It can no longer be a color only; it must also be a state of mind."



Rev. George N. Frederick, pastor of Calvary Roseville United Methodist Church in East Orange

Rev. Jackson said that the black church needs to begin to help the community to define the issues. He discussed the State's Quality Education Act, under which money that was earmarked for suburban school districts was to be pumped into urban, predominantly black school districts. The suburban districts were against the plan and proposed that it be repealed.

"That repeal would have

never occurred if the blacks in the general assembly didn't vote for it; but every single one of them voted to repeal it," said Jackson. "That means they took money from urban schools to give back to suburban schools, which are much better than those in the inner city."

"And again, there were very few black preachers in the black church who said anything about it. We do nothing to hold our own accountable for anything."

Jackson also discussed the March issue of "The New Jersey Law Journal" that detailed the indictment of County Chairman Tom D'Alessio

and questioned the fundraising tactics of Newark Mayor Sharpe James.

"Isn't it a strange thing when they can raise almost a million dollars with the 'Friends of this person' and the 'Friends of that person,' but can't find \$200,000 to have a summer recreation program in the inner city," notes Jackson.

"Those are the kinds of issues that the church of necessity must raise," Jackson says. "And it's not because you're for some-

body or against somebody; but it's because you're for improving the quality of life of your city."

Jackson concluded, "Those are the kinds of things that I mean by defining issues and setting priorities."

City News asked other black pastors throughout the area what they feel are the three most pressing problems confronting

(continued on page A-6)

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# 'We Are One'

(continued from page A-4)

would have only been a dream for us in 1963.

*We almost have it made.*

Look at some of our people who enjoy prominence today. General Colin Powell, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, who coordinates the unfortunate war currently taking place in the Mid-East. Art Shell, first black, head-football coach in the NFL, whose Los Angeles Raiders will be competing for the right to play in the Super Bowl. Then there is Ron Brown, Chairman of the Democratic National Committee, and Thurgood Marshall, a distinguished jurist on the Supreme Court. Finally there are Douglas Wilder, governor of Virginia and David Dinkins, mayor of New York.

*It seems like we have arrived.*

Yes, things are different, and by many measures, they are better for us today. But that is not the whole story. Things are not going well for everyone who is black. There is another side of the story that is not pleasant, but it is one that we know only too well. For you notice that the media emphasizes this other side almost to the total exclusion of the positives I previously mentioned.

What is the other side? The other side is how we compare with other groups in the country, and what we are doing to ourselves as people. I will spare you the boredom of repeating the statistics that detail how bad we are doing

*Like it or not, believe it or not,  
accept it or not, black people  
are inextricably bound  
together. Rich or poor,  
educated or not, light or dark,  
Methodist or Baptist, we are  
bound together.*

as a group in areas such as average black family income, black unemployment, black female heads of house, and even about the number of black people in jail. But allow me to share this — 25% of black men in their 20's are in jail, on probation, or on parole. In the inner cities, one of the

leading causes of death for black males between ages 15 and 24 is homicide. They are killing themselves over drugs, 8-ball jackets and to prove how "bad" they are.

What else is the other side of the story? Drugs, substance abuse, children having children, inadequate health care, poor housing, low self esteem, AIDS, glass ceilings, no hope, and no prospects, just to name a few.

In spite of the progress that has been made and the good that exists, there is too much wrong for us to say we have arrived. You may think that you are above these problems, and that they will never touch you or your family; that you have risen to a level of power and influence on your job, and that your income level insulates you from these problems. As a matter of fact you may even begin to refer to your less fortunate brothers and sisters as "those people."

But consider this: If you have a daughter, who is she going to marry? Whose taxes are they going to increase to keep "those people" in jail? When your head hits that corporate "glass ceiling," the one that stops your growth and prevents you from being promoted to the positions you

(continued on page A-9)

## Rebuilding the black church

(continued from page A-5)

the black church today. City News also asked them what role they see the black church playing in urban communities.

According to Rev. Jerry Sanders, pastor of Fountain Baptist Church in Summit, one of the most pressing issues confronting the black church is the fact that it is losing its leadership position within the community.

"Because we've lost sight of our spiritual role we've also lost our leadership role in many other areas in the community," he says.

According to Sanders, the primary role of the black church in dealing with urban community is to provide spiritual leader-

ship.

"Out of providing spiritual leadership, we have to automatically provide leadership in every other facet of life," he says. "Black church has always traditionally been, the hub of the black community, because... we believe that all of life is sacred. We never believed in life being sacred and secular; it was all of God. Therefore everything of life had some sort of spiritual significance. For the black church, if we get back to being spiritual leaders, we will automatically be political leaders, social leaders, as well as religious leaders within the community."

Sanders also feels that the church must deal with the problems that affect young

people, "because what affects our young people affects us," as well as the issue of health.

"The issue of health, especially with AIDS, is an issue that we in the church need to address more than we have in the past. This also means that as we deal with AIDS we have to deal with the issues of condoms, teen pregnancy and all of the things that we try to avoid talking about. We have to deal with them because all of them are threatening our community," he says.

According to Rev. George N. Frederick, pastor of Calvary Roseville United Methodist Church in East Orange, the church must convince the people in the com-

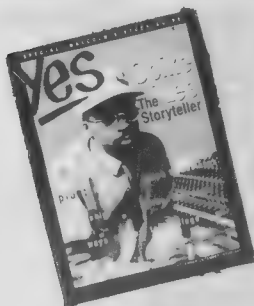
munities "of the importance of Christ and the fact that Christ can make a difference in their lives, even in this particular age."

The Reverend feels that the church must help to rebuild the family structure and to provide for the needs of the people.

"Not just simply the spiritual needs of people," he says, "but the various needs that people have from time to time including social, educational, etc."

Frederick also says that, because the urban communities are changing very quickly and are making some very high demands upon people who live in the areas, the church has to be supportive and out in front to provide direction for the commu-

(continued on page A-8)



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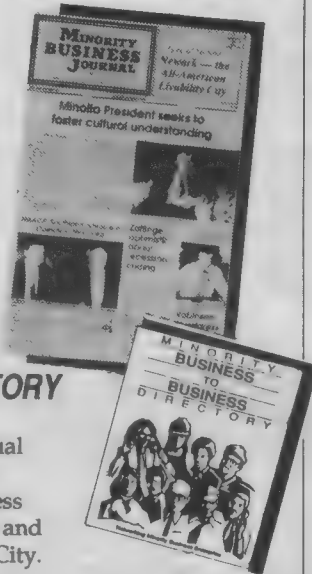
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# Rebuilding the black church

(continued from page A-6)  
nity.

"Almost like being a prophet," he concluded.

Rev. Kelmo Porter, pastor of St. John's Baptist Church in Scotch Plains says, "There are an awful lot of problems affecting us today."

Pastor Porter says that the economic crisis that seems to be plaguing the American people affect, primarily, the black male.

"If he can't properly provide for his people, he's really not a religious creature," says Porter. "He can better serve God when he has a good home, good meals and somewhere for his children to go to school. So you can't isolate the economics from religion."

Another great problem affecting the church, according to Porter, is society's subtle discrimination against the black church.

"People give lip service to the Christian religion, but the black church finds that it often stands alone," Porter says. "We are pressed to support things like the holocaust and other social issues of people who are not of color, but usually when it comes to problems that affect us and as it relates to Dr. Martin Luther King and others, we find it very very hard in our society to get a real honest following of the white community."

Finally, Porter says that the black church has lost much of its roots — its firm belief in the Christian religion and Jesus Christ as our Saviour.

"We put more emphasis on economics.

We put more emphasis on materialism and trying to keep up with the Joneses, and we seem to be losing much of the fervor in our church that we've known over the years," he says. "We have to get back to the old time way, where we believe that Christ is the answer for all of our problems and I think that if we can really do that, we won't have as many problems with our children, with our schools and with our community."

When it comes to the role of the black church in urban communities, Pastor Porter explains that, since he has been a minister in the suburbs for the past 25 to 30 years, he is not too familiar with the church in "real urban society."

He says, however, "I think that the church should be the beacon light and should be the primary institution in the community, addressing issues as they relate to schools as they relate to economics instead of just isolating yourselves and talking about going to heaven. We have to concern ourselves about the homeless, about the AIDS situation that's in our society. The church should reach out into the community, and do all it can to make the community a better place in which to live. . . If we do that, our churches will be much stronger, and will be better in both urban and also in our suburban society."

Rev. Robert Newbold, pastor of Bethel Presbyterian Church in Plainfield, says, "I feel that the three most pressing problems facing the black church today are that of making the message and the mission of the

(continued on page A-11)



Rev. Robert Newbold, pastor of Bethel Presbyterian Church in Plainfield

# We are one, uniting as a people

(continued from page A-6)

earn, who is going to listen to your complaints? Who is the drug addict going to rob when they see your expensive watch, gold chains, mink coat, or luxury car? When you

*[Various groups] should get beyond the personality cliques and ego trips of individual leaders. They should get beyond meeting for the purpose of seeing each other, and get to the point where the meetings are focused on creating solutions to the numerous challenges that face us.*

are in your casual clothes driving your car through a strange white neighborhood and you are stopped by the police, what makes you sure they won't mistake you for one of "those people?"

Like it or not, believe it or not, accept it or not, black people are inextricably bound together. Rich or poor, educated or not, light or dark, Methodist or Baptist, we are bound together. For most of us, our ethnicity, our race, is the first thing most people notice. And, with the exception of sports and entertainment, our ethnicity supersedes the position or title we might possess.

How often have you heard someone referred to as the black manager, the black doctor, the black nurse, the black officer. In the minds of others, our racial identity supersedes the role we play, the function we perform, or the contribution we make. We may be black and proud, and cease to view racial distinctions as important in our minds; or we might be black and ashamed and try to deny what we are. Regardless of where we fit, we can't be blind to the truth and the facts — other people condition their acceptance of us based on our ethnicity.

This point was underscored even as I prepared for this talk. In using the Reader's Guide to Periodical Literature I was struck with the number of classifications they give to black people. A few were: Black Athletes, Black Ambassadors, Black Consumers, Black Education, Black Family, Black Management.

I started to wonder how do they classify white people? So I turned to the section marked "W" and looked up white. I found White, Elizabeth Ann, and the names of

several other individuals whose last name is White, but I found none of the numerous classifications that I did under black.

I then turned to black and continued reading Black Mayors, Black Physicians, Black Press, Black Women, Black Workers. You may be asking what is the point? The point is that in this country, if you ever forget who you are or what you are, there are a lot of people who will help you to remember.

But we also need to remember, every

now and then, where we came from and how we got to where we are; that we have "climbed the rough side of the mountain" to get to where we are. It was not on flowery beds of ease that we made progress. It was through many dangers, toils, and snares we have already come. It was through the lynching of our fathers and brothers, through the bombing of our homes and churches, through murders, through terrorism, through the abuse of our women, the beating of our children. It was through

these and other unspoken horrors that the Movement persevered. King may have been the spokesman for the movement and the leader while he lived, but it was grace that brought us safe thus far, and it is grace that will lead us home.

As we remember the gallant sacrifices made by so many unknown and unsung soldiers of civil rights battles past and gone, let us consider that if progress is

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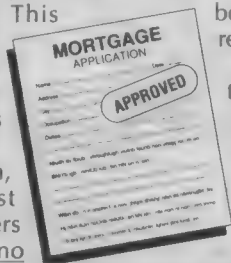
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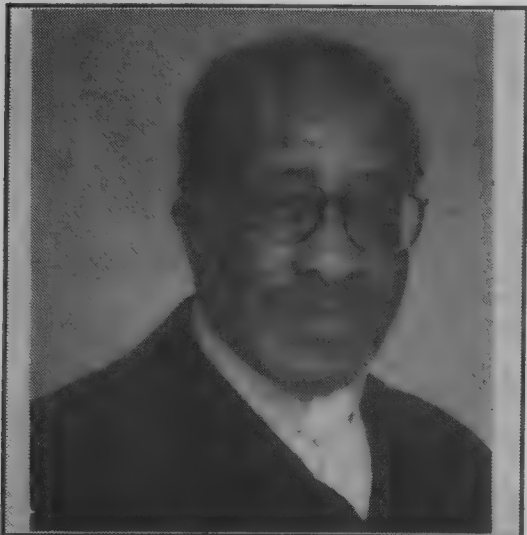
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# Rebuilding the Black Church



Rev. Donald Nichols, Sr., pastor of Mt. Olive Baptist Church in Plainfield

(continued from page A-8)

church relevant to conditions as they exist today; secondly, applying ministry and [thirdly] all efforts in terms of helping the black males in the church and the black family experience stability."

He says that there are several roles that the black church should play in urban communities. He focused on two: "One is that the black church needs to seek every opportunity to work with social

agencies, governmental agencies, philanthropic agencies to improve, in all areas, the community. Secondly, I think the black church's congregations in our communities need to work together. The job of changing the face of any community or city is too mammoth for any one congregation, and so we need to learn the importance of working together."

According to Rev. Donald

Hilliard, pastor of Second Baptist Church in Perth Amboy, the black church is confronted with the problems of family, economics and education.

"I think a lot of the problem has been due to a break down of moral code and spiritual nurture," he says. "We need to renew our faith in God and our commitment to the church."

Hilliard notes that the black church has historically "been a strong place; a place of teaching, a place where we developed our code of ethics."

"I think for the church to really make a difference we're going to have to put a great deal of emphasis on spiritual renewal, family development and nurture the family, in which ever way it is represented," he says. "I don't just mean a husband and wife, I mean a mother and children, grandmother and children, aunts and children."

Hilliard says the black church can play a pivotal role in the lives of the people in the community, by way of programs and outreach, such as an economic empowerment ministry that is aimed to meet the needs of the community.

Rev. Moses A. Knott, Jr., pastor of Imani Baptist Church of Christ in East Orange, says that the first problem confronting the

black church is understanding the role of the church in society.

"The church is not limited to worshipping God on Sunday morning, but is involved in everyday living of people," says Knott.

According to the Reverend, the health of the people, including AIDS, and the education of young people — not only formal education, but reminding them of who they are; what the role of their people has been historically and what is expected of them — are also pressing problems.

"I hope the black church will become the nuclear of the community like it once was, with its arms reaching out into every facet of life — good jobs, good education, faith, secure communities, good homes. That's the role I see," Knott concluded.

"The things that we're facing in society, crime, drugs, unemployment, these things all have a way of affecting the church," says Rev. Donald Nichols, Sr., pastor of Mt. Olive Baptist Church in Plainfield. "I think we have our work cut out for us. . . Even though the church itself is still thriving, even in these

economic times, the church is still flourishing."

According to Nichols, the church has to play an activist role in the community.

"It really has to go out and meet the problem head on," he says. "You can't always sit in church because the things don't come to you. We should be activists, going out and doing what we can in the community, wherever we can."

According to Rev. Leroy



Rev. Leroy Lyons, pastor of Saint Mark's Episcopal Church in Plainfield

Lyons, pastor of Saint Mark's Episcopal Church in Plainfield, (continued on page A-12)

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# We are one, by accepting responsibility

(continued from page A-9)  
going to be made in 1991 we have to pick up the blood stained banner, put on our armament and go forward. We have to do it. If the dream of freedom and justice for all is worth pursuing, then we have to run after it. If the principles on which this country is founded are the just entitlements of all its citizens, we must continue to press our cause.

*If our problems are going to be solved, the solutions are going to come from us.*

We must unite as a people and work for making the dream of "freedom and justice for all" a reality in these United States. And, we must be supportive of each other's efforts. Even though our different groups are not working on the same projects, we must be supportive of each other.

There is strength in unity.

The varied and separate groups that are working to do good should come together so their effectiveness can be multiplied. They should get beyond the personality cliques and ego trips of individual leaders. They should get beyond meeting for the purpose of seeing each other, and get to the point where the meetings are focused on creating solutions to the numerous challenges that face us.

It is crucial that we be united and supportive of each other. We must accept responsibility for ourselves and start asking "What can we do to help?" As long as we talk only about what the government is or is not doing or talk only about "those white folks," we don't see our responsibilities. The question is not "What are they going to do for us?" but rather "What are we

going to do to help ourselves?"

The solutions to our problems are not going to come from people who have no interest or concern about us; they are not going to come from people who fear us or see us as threats. The solutions to our problems are not going to come from people who patronize us or act like they are doing us a favor by giving us what we are entitled to. The solutions to our problems are not even going to come from our "friends."

There are white people of good will, who out of pure and sincere motives, have given support to our cause. They have done this without thought of what they would get out of it. They have given and sacrificed in the interest of freedom and justice. While we can accept help, we can't wait for help.

If our problems are going to be solved, the solutions are going to come from us. We must define the problems. We must develop solutions. We must plan how we

are going to implement the solutions, and then, we must work together.

We must accept responsibility for ourselves. We must be clear about our objectives, and we must support people, groups, and organizations that will help us. Most importantly, when we support someone, let's hold them accountable for results. Let's stop supporting those who are long on promises and short on performance, stop supporting those who see us only as a group to be manipulated for their own selfish ends. The power is in our hands to help ourselves.

We all have read of, and even know, individuals who sacrifice to help the less fortunate. Those people, for example, who are helping children and serving as men-

tors for fatherless boys; those people who are training unskilled young men, or teaching young girls the skills of mothering. These people don't help because of what they can gain. Why? Because the people they are helping have nothing to give. They help out of a sense of responsibility to the community, because they are committed to their people and feel they should "give something back."

*We need to change our attitude from 'I can't do because of' to 'I can do in spite of.'*

We need to change our attitude about whose responsibility it is to solve our problems. We also need an attitude change about each other. Those who "have" must change their attitude about the "have nots." It must change from disgust and disdain to understanding that "there but for the grace of God go I." The "have nots" must take

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## Rebuilding the black church

(continued from page A-11)  
the problems are not the same for all churches and for all denominations. He says that the black church that's urban has a different problem than the black church that is the suburban.

"For instance, one of the problems I see is leadership," Lyons explains. "When I say leadership I'm not thinking on the top level like the clergy or even the leaders of groups, but that secondary level of leadership, where people have to get down into the trenches; but so many people don't have the time."

Lyons says that, since the world is so complex today, people have so many responsibilities and pressing things to do each day — commuting to work, working long hours, two jobs — that they really don't have much time for anything else.

"It's like working with a set of burnt out people," he says.

Lyons says that lack of volunteers is one of the biggest problems facing the church and it, in turn, affects the way the church can handle other problems.

"The church's energy is volunteer," he explains. "Hence, when you don't have that kind of leadership, then the role models to help young children and teenagers isn't there and then there are problems that go with that."

The church should always provide leadership, according to Lyons.

"The black church has over the years provided political leadership, economic

leadership, social leadership, as well as moral leadership and I think it should still be the same today," he says. "We don't seem to have the resources. . . We're not getting the kind of help [we need], so its very difficult to provide leadership."

Rev. Theodore Calhoun, pastor of St. Luke A.M.E. Zion Church in Westfield says, the African-American community should reclaim its identity with the predominantly black church.

"I think we need to do a mental replay as to the part the black church played in the revolutions in the 1960's," he says.

Calhoun also says that the African-American community needs to be more supportive of each other and become a part of the team, instead of being just spectators.

Finally, Calhoun says, "I think most importantly, one of the struggles that we're having in and outside of our church is the lack of knowledge as to the definition of the church as the Holy Word defines it. I think that we need to seek knowledge through studying the Holy Word to really understand the purpose of this institution and the power that this institution can have."

The pastor says that the church should establish programs and have the proper facilities to meet the needs of the people within the communities that it serves. In order to do that, however, the church needs support.

"We're not getting adequate support to facilitate these programs within our

churches. . . We need to be able to reach out, but, in order to do that, we need the support of our community," he concluded.

Rev. Jerry W. Henry, pastor of Shiloh Baptist Church in Plainfield says that the church has strayed away from its "first love."

"Its responsibility is to preach and teach God's Word," he says. "The Word is what will equip the members of a local church to functioning the world we live in. He says that the black church has to regain its courage and take the lead in prescribing remedies for the ills in the black community."

"For too long we have allowed the secular world to lead us in their remedies for healing the world, remedies which have yielded little or no success," says the pastor.

He also says the church is too easily herded into issues and agendas that do not reflect its standards and principles: "We expend too much time, energy, and influence on issues and agendas that are, in



Rev. Jerry W. Henry, pastor of Shiloh Baptist Church in Plainfield

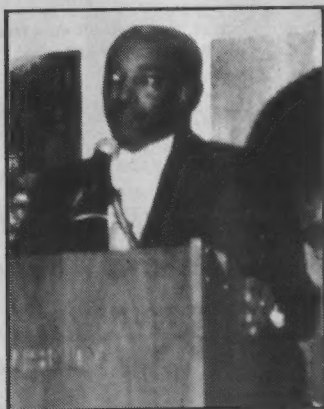
many cases, diametrically opposed to the principles and standards of the church."

According to Henry, the church has a major role in the community — to influence the community for good.

"This is done when the church insures that each of its members understands and is inspired to live and promote the standards and principles of the church and Christ in every area of life and living," he says. ■



# Economic Empowerment Expo



Rev. Dr. Buster Soaries, pastor of First Baptist Church

(continued from page A-5)

plans to spark the development of day care centers, strip malls along Route 27, housing, and educational programs.

According to Johnson, the goal of developing minority businesses "is critically important." He pointed to the philosophy of Joe Dudley, president of Dudley Products Company in North Carolina, and keynote speaker at the luncheon.

"His philosophy, and ours as well, is that if we can't trade among ourselves, if we can't develop enterprises

among ourselves, then we're really doomed to failure as a people," he said. "This enterprise, as well as the one we did last year, and the ones we'll do in the future, are developmental in nature.

"Our vision is that years from now we won't need to have an expo. Our business community will be so varied and so vital and so vibrant that the idea of having an expo will be passé, and instead we'll have trade missions to Africa or mall openings and things of that nature."

## 'We Are One'

(continued from page A-12)

the chip off their shoulder, stop feeling sorry for themselves, and stop thinking that everyone that has more than they do owes them something. We must stop tearing each other down and start building each other up. Rather than ridiculing each other's mistakes, we need to be encouraging each other to do better. Rather than quarreling and competing, we need to be cooperating and collaborating.

We need to change our attitude from "I can't do because of" to "I can do in spite of." We are survivors. Our history as a people is filled with examples of individuals who have survived persecution and injustice; individuals who made achievements in spite of the tremendous odds that were against them.

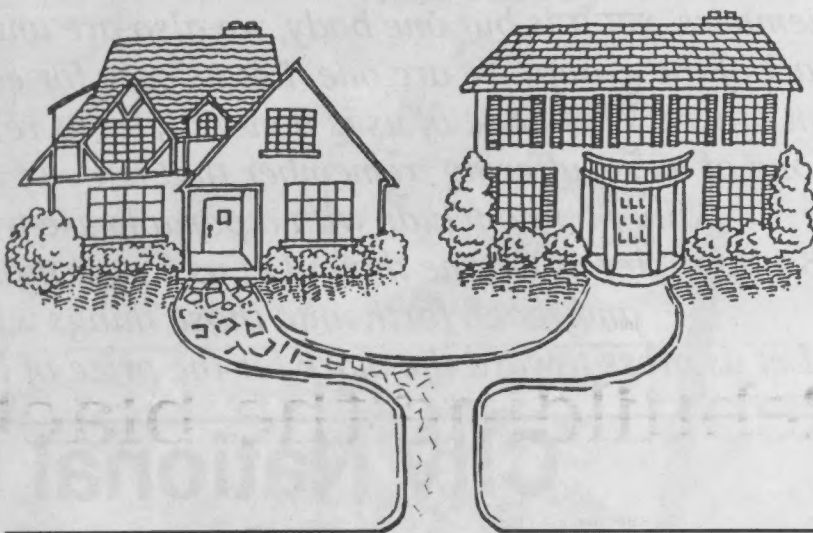
And what is achievement anyway? Is it just fame, fortune, and position? Absolutely not!!! All of us know of people who have lived lives of quiet dignity and respect; whose achievements can be measured in terms of their stable marriages, good home lives, solid families, steady employment, and faithful stewardship. They are not famous in the world, but they are all solid citizens and productive members of society. They are building up their communities by helping when needed, and giving when able. They have invested their time putting a rung on the ladder of life on which future generations can stand; and they are people who also know that genuine achievement occurs when there is patient and persistent pursuit of a proper purpose. They are people who know that achievement stands on a firm foundation of service, not the shifting sands of show, glitter, and appearances. And lastly, they are people who know that the achievement made today must be guarded vigilantly or it may be lost tomorrow.

We also need a balanced view of ourselves, of other people and of the country we live in. We can't cry discrimination and prejudice because situations don't develop to favor us. Black isn't right just because its black. White isn't wrong just because its white. Not all black people are for you and not all white people are against you.

We need to look at ourselves in terms of the contribution we can make, then we need to make it. We then need to look at others in terms of the help they need, and be willing to offer it. And let's be clear that helping someone is not doing for them what they should do for themselves. I believe the Peace Corps said, "Give a man a fish and you

(continued on page A-14)

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# 'We Are One'

(continued from page 13)

for a life." We need to teach our people how to fish. It takes more effort and time, but continued progress can not be made if only half of us are working.

We need to share ideas and information with each other, networking across and within

the political, economic, educational, legal, and social arenas in which we are involved. Life is so interrelated that we hurt ourselves and slow up our own progress by keeping each other out and hiding information.

Our political leaders must press to change laws that work against us, and enact

laws that will help us. They must continue to expose the hidden deceitfulness and opposition of people who present themselves as our friends, but are in truth our enemies. Our legal experts must defend us in court, litigate us out of trouble, and protect us from a system that would im-

prison us. Our educators must protect our young boys from being damaged by a system designed to hurt them; and they must educate the parents about how to help their children. Our business leaders must survive and help build a base of economic strength in our communities.

*All of us must work diligently in our lives to be good stewards of the gifts that God has given us. Just as the body is not one member but many, so too we are a people of many individuals. Like the body which has many members, yet it is but one body, we also are unique persons, yet we are all part of the group. We are one. Let us care for each other; we can't depend on others. When one of us is honored, let us rejoice with them. And when one of us is suffering, remember that none of us ever really escapes the pain. So I conclude with a paraphrase from Phil. 3:13 & 14;*

*- Brethren, let us do one thing. Let us forget those things which are behind, and reach forth unto those things which are before.*

*Let us press toward the mark for the prize of liberty and justice for all. ■*

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**National Council welcomes NY/NJ Council back**



By E. Michelle Olson  
Program, that's the word that best describes recent changes in the New York/New Jersey Minority Business Council (NY/NJ MIBC).  
The organization has been re-affiliated with the National Minority Business Development Council (NMBC), and is now committed to leading from that body and other benefits of membership.  
"National NMBC wanted the Board of the NY/NJ MIBC to show commitment to running a regional council in this time, after all, it was the Board who not previously and allowed things to develop the way that they did," said Robert Sharpe, chairman of the New York Council.  
In applying for re-affiliation with NMBC, "the Board acknowledged responsibility and made a commitment to supporting the organization, working with it in reaching various local, state, sharing plans for strengthening the Board, and all driving economic development issues."  
NY/NJ MIBC was granted affiliation and is now in good standing with NMBC.  
For a number of reasons, NY/NJ MIBC is also a better position for the National Office in selling and ready to work with the New York State Council to make it the "flagship," said Sharpe.  
Because of the number of organizations and MIBs in this area, the Council should be one of the "flagship" entities. We will work with the new leadership to make that happen," he said.  
(Continued on page 11)

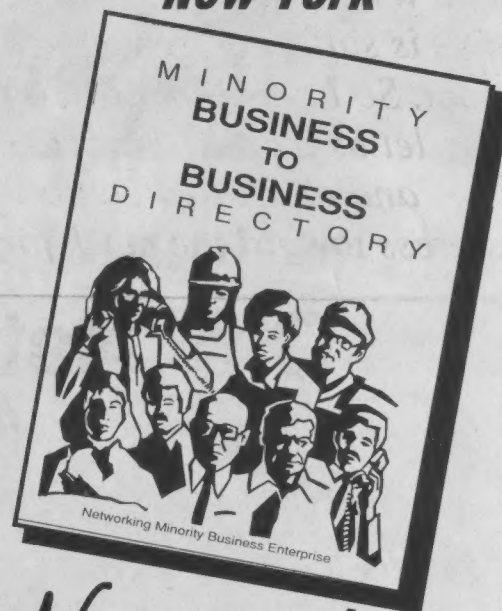
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Gov. Florio signed the Executive Order creating the special one-year, and announced the job will be filled by Robert Sharpe, former Commissioner of Environmental Protection under Governor Thomas Kean. It was believed to be the first time an Executive Order signed by a Governor of New Jersey also included the signature of the Senate President and Assembly Speaker - symbols of the bipartisan effort behind this type of legislation.  
"These are extraordinary times, and these are extraordinary times," (Continued on page 11)

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